REPORT

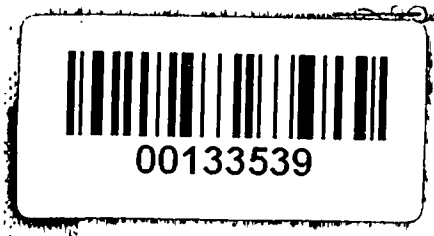
OF THE

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FOR THE

YEAR 1869.

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 7TH OCTOBER 1869



Bombay:
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REPORT

OF THE

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

FOR THE

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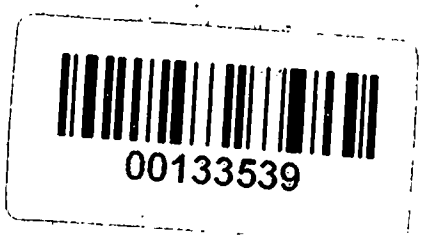
YEAR 1868-69.

PRESENTED TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THE 4TH OCTOBER 1869.

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Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

ESTABLISHED 22nd SEPTEMBER 1836.

List of Members.

Messrs. Bell, Ventz, & Lucius.
" Blackwell & Co.
" Campbell, Mitchell, & Co.
" Clason (H.) & Co.
" Ewart, Latham, & Co.
" Finlay, Clark, & Co.
" Finlay, Scott, & Co.
" Forbes & Co.
" Framjee, Sands, & Co.
" Gaddum & Co.
" Graham (W. & A.) & Co.
" Gumpert (A. C.) & Co.
" Hill, Pollock, & Co.
" Hutchinson, Dods, & Co.
" Kunkler, Prieswerk, & Co.
" Killick, Nixon, & Co.
" King (G. S.) & Co.
" Knoop & Co.
" Kuhn (L.) & Co.
" Lawrence & Co.
" Leggatt & Co.
" Lockhart (George) & Co.
" Lyon & Co.
" Macdonald, Tweedie, & Co.
" Macnee, Thomsen, & Co.
Messrs. Martin, Young, & Co.
" Mionnet (E.) & Co.
" Nicol (W.) & Co.
" Peel, Cassels, & Co.
" Pim (G. F.) & Co.
" Ralli Brothers.
" Rennie, Scovell, & Co.
" Ritchie, Steuart, & Co.
" Robinson & Co.
" Sassoon (D.) & Co.
" Siegefried & Co.
" Stearns, Hobart, & Co.
" Volkart Brothers.
" Wallace & Co.
" Watson, Bogle, & Co.
The Agra Bank, Limited.
The Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China.
The Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China.
The Comptoir D'Escompt de Paris.
The London, Asiatic, and American Company, Limited.
The National Bank of India.
The P. & O. S. N. Company.

RETIRING COMMITTEE.

* Hamilton Maxwell, Esq., *Chairman.*
W. F. Peel, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*

A. E. Ashley, Esq. .....
D. Graham, Esq.....
† R. V. Reid, Esq..... } *Members.*
‡ J. P. Negroponte, Esq.....
C. A. Kittredge, Esq. .....

COMMITTEE FOR 1869-70.

§ H. E. Astley, Esq., *Chairman.*
D. Graham, Esq., *Deputy Chairman.*
‖ H. E. Bright, Esq.....
¶ J. Percy Leith, Esq.....
Gustav Ventz, Esq. ..... } *Members.*
Charles Macdonald, Esq.
Charles Douglas, Esq.....

James Taylor, Esq., *Secretary.*

Messrs. William Nicol & Co., *Treasurers.*

Muckondrow Bhawoo, *Head Clerk.*

* Retired in May last, and was succeeded by Mr. H. E. Astley.
† Retired in March last, and was succeeded by Mr. H. E. Bright.
‡ Retired in March last, and was succeeded by Mr. C. W. Russel.
§ Retired in December, and was succeeded by Mr. Graham.
‖ Succeeded Mr. Graham, as Deputy Chairman, in January, and Mr. Nixon appointed a Member in succession.
¶ Retired and was succeeded by Mr. J. K. Pollock in January.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

OF THE

Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

Revised and adopted at a General Meeting held on 1st Dec. 1864.

I. That the object and duties of the Chamber shall be to encourage a friendly feeling and unanimity among commercial men on all subjects involving their common good; to promote and protect the general mercantile interests of this Presidency; to collect and classify information on all matters of general commercial interest; to obtain the removal, as far as such a society can, of all acknowledged grievances affecting merchants as a body, or mercantile interests in general; to receive and decide references on matters of usage and custom in dispute, recording such decisions for future guidance, and by this and other means assisting to form a code of practice for simplifying and facilitating business; to communicate with the public authorities, with similar associations in other places, and with individuals on all subjects of general mercantile interest; and to arbitrate between parties willing to refer to, and abide by, the judgment of the Chamber.

II. That all persons engaged or interested in mercantile pursuits desirous of joining the Chamber, and disposed to aid in carrying into effect the objects of the same, shall be admitted Members by the vote of a majority of not less than two-thirds of those voting at a General Meeting, as provided for in Rule III.

III. That one-fourth of the firms constituting the Chamber shall be held sufficient to form any General Meeting when the same has been regularly called together—one partner representing a firm; but two or more partners of one firm being present only to count as one member of the Chamber. That seven clear days' notice shall be given before any resolution proposing changes in the Rules of the Chamber be brought forward, and that such notice be given in writing to the Secretary, who shall circulate it for the information of the Members of the Chamber.

IV. That the Chamber reserves to itself the right of expulsion in case of need, to be decided at a General Meeting by a majority of three-fourths of the Members present at such General Meeting, duly convened.

V. The subscription of each firm or Member of the Chamber shall be Rupees 25 per month.

VI. That the affairs and funds of the Association be managed by a Committee of seven Members, consisting of the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Chamber and five Members, who shall be elected annually at a General Meeting of the Chamber in the month of September, and shall remain in office for one year, but be re-eligible on expiration of office. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman, as the case may be, to be *ex-officio* Chairman of the Committee, and in their absence the Committee to elect their own Chairman. Three to be a quorum. In the event of any Member of the Committee resigning or declining to serve, the remaining Members of the Committee shall fill up the vacancy.

VII. The Chairman, Deputy Chairman, and Members of Committee for election must be proposed at least seven days before the General Meeting to be convened for the purpose of elections, and their names be published in the rooms of the Chamber for that period, and by circular. No two Members of one firm shall be on the Committee at the same time.

VIII. That all questions before the Committee shall be decided by a majority, the Chairman having a second or casting vote in case of an equality of votes.

IX. That the Committee shall meet on Friday, or on such other day as may be found by them most convenient, of every week, to receive and dispose of all communications and references, and to take under their consideration generally all matters embraced in the objects of the Chamber; and that their proceedings be laid on the table for the inspection of all Members, subject to such regulations as they may make.

X. That General Meetings of the Chamber be held quarterly for the purpose of discussing any measures of public interest which may arise, and that in the interval between the Meetings the Committee of the Chamber be intrusted with the selection of subjects for discussion at those meetings, and give notice of the same to the Members beforehand. That a Special General Meeting shall be called by the Chairman, or by his order, seven days after the receipt of a requistion from any three firms Members of the Chamber; but that a majority of firms, represented by one or more Members from each firm, being Members of the Chamber, be required to constitute such General Meeting, and that the Annual General Meeting shall be held in the month of September, on such day as the Committee for the time being shall direct such Meeting to be convened on a seven days' notice. That all General Meetings of the Chamber shall be advertised in the newspapers.

XI. That the Committee be authorized to provide suitable accommodation for the meeting of the Chamber, to pay all expenses of the establishment, and to control generally the management of the affairs of the Chamber.

XII. That all moneys or funds of the Chamber, as received, be paid into the hands of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being, and that the same be available by cheques signed by the Chairman, or in his absence by the Acting Chairman for the time being, and by one other Member of the Committee.

XIII. That a Secretary be appointed by a majority of Members, in such way as the Committee for the time being may point out; that it shall be the duty of such Secretary to keep the records and accounts of the Chamber, to collect subscriptions, handing the same over to the Treasurer, to conduct correspondence, and to act generally under the directions of the Committee.

XIV. That all the proceedings of the Committee be subject to approval or otherwise of General Meetings duly convened.

XIV. That any stranger engaged or interested in mercantile pursuits visiting the Presidency may be introduced as a visitor by any Member of the Chamber inserting his name in a book to be kept for that purpose, but that a residence of two months shall subject him to the rule for the admission of Members.

XVI. *Honorary Members.*—Gentlemen distinguished for public services, or eminent in commerce and manufactures, may be elected Honorary Members of the Chamber, and as such shall be exempted from paying subscriptions.

XVII. That an Annual Report of the proceedings be made, and copies sent to the similar associations in India, China, and elsewhere.

XVIII. That the foregoing Rules be added to, or altered, only by a majority of Members of the Chamber.

XIX. That the firms whose signatures are attached be considered as acknowledging the "Bombay Chamber of Commerce," as now constituted, to represent their public and united interests.

XX. That the forgoing Rules be copied into a book, to be kept Members, with the records of the Chamber, and be signed by all the and that copies be printed and delivered to each firm.

TONNAGE SCALE AT BOMBAY.

At a General Meeting of Merchants held in the offices of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, on the 6th of June 1856, convened by circular under the direction of the Committee of the Chamber, William Forsyth Hunter, Esq., Chairman of the Chamber, in the Chair, it was proposed by Henry Scott, Esq., of Messrs. Finlay, Scott, & Co., seconded by John Campbell, Esq., of Messrs. Campbell, Mitchell, & Co., and unanimously carried —"That from and after the 1st of January 1857 the following amended Scale be taken to regulate the Trade from Bombay and the Malabar Coast to the United Kingdom, in the absence of special agreement to the contrary" :—

Articles.	To the Ton.
Aloes, in kegs	16 cwt.
Alum, in bags	20 „
Annato, in cases	50 feet.
Apparel	50 „
Arrowroot, in cases	50 „
Asafœtida, in cases	50 „
Barilla	20 cwt.
Bees' Wax, in cases	50 feet.
Betelnut, in bags	16 cwt.
Blackwood, in straight square logs	50 feet.
Do. otherwise	20 cwt.
Books	50 feet.
Borax, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Bullion	per cent.
Camphor, in cases	50 feet.
Canes, Rattans, in Bundles	16 cwt.
Cardamoms, in bundles	50 feet.
Cassia Lignea, Fistula, and Buds	50 „
Chassum	10 cwt.

ARTICLES—(*continued*).	To the Ton.
China Root, in cases	50 feet.
Cigars	50 „
Cinnamon, in bales	6 cwt.
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Cloves, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags or frazils	10 cwt.
Coals	20 „
Cocoa, in bags	12 „
Coculus Indicus, in bags	16 „
Coffee, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in bags or frazils	16 cwt.
Coir, in bales	50 feet.
Do. in bundles or loose	6 cwt.
Do. Rope in coils...	8 „
Colocynth, in cases	50 feet.
Colombo Root, in bags	14 cwt.
Copra, in robins	12 „
Coral, Rough (not Specimen), in bags	20 „
Cotton, in bales	50 feet.
Cowries, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Cubebs	12 „
Cummin Seed, in cases	50 feet.
Cutch or Terra Japonica, in bags or baskets, unscrewed	16 cwt.
Dates, wet	20 „
Do. dry	16 „
Dragon's Blood, in cases	50 feet.
Ebony, square and straight...	50 „
Do. otherwise	20 cwt.
Elephants' Teeth, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in bundles	18 cwt.
Do. loose	20 „
Furniture	50 feet.
Galingals	12 cwt.
Galls, in bags	16 „
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Ginger, dry, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags	12 cwt.
Gram	20 „
Ground Nuts, shelled	16 „
Gums, of all kinds, in cases...	50 feet.
Gum Olibanum, in bags	16 cwt.
Hurtall, in cases	50 feet.
Hemp, in screwed bales	50 „
Do. loose or in bundles	7 cwt.
Hides and Skins, in screwed bales	50 feet.

ARTICLES—(*continued*).	To the Ton.
Hides and Skins, loose and in small bundles	12 cwt.
Horns, Buffalo and Cow, loose	16 „
Horns, Deer, loose	8 „
Horn Tips, of any kind	16 „
Indigo, in cases	50 feet.
Jackwood...	50 „
Lac Dye, in shells or cases	50 „
Linseed, in bags	18 cwt.
Mace, in cases	50 feet.
Mother-o'-Pearl, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags	20 cwt.
Munjeet or Madder Root, in cases or bales	50 feet.
Do. in bundles or bags... ...	12 cwt.
Musk, in cases	50 feet.
Myrabolams, in bags	16 cwt.
Nutmegs, in cases	50 feet.
Nux Vomica, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags	16 cwt.
Oil, of any kind, in casks	...210 im. gals.
Oil Seeds, Teel, Rape, Mustard, Khorassan, and Castor.	17 cwt.
Opium	per chest.
Paddy, in bags	16 cwt.
Pepper, in bags	16 „
Pimento	14 „
Plumbago, in bags	20 „
Rattans, in bundles	16 „
Do. Ground	16 „
Red wood	16 „
Rhubarb, in cases	50 feet.
Rice, in bags	20 cwt.
Safflower, in cases	50 feet.
Do. in screwed bales	50 „
Do. in bags	10 cwt.
Sago, in cases	50 feet.
Sal Ammoniac, in cases	50 „
Do. in bags	18 cwt.
Saltpetre	20 „
Sandal and Sapan Wood	16 „
Sealing Wax, in cases	50 feet.
Senna, in bags	6 cwt.
Do. in bales	50 feet.
Shells, Rough, in bags	20 cwt.
Silk, in bales	10 „
Do. in cases	50 feet.
Soap, in cases	50 „

ARTICLE—(*continued*).	To the Ton.
Sugar, in bags	20 cwt.
Talc	20 ,,
Tallow	50 feet.
Tamarinds	18 cwt.
Tea, in chests	50 feet.
Timber, Teak, Square Planks and Poon	50 ,,
Do. Round, one-fifth off.	
Tobacco, in bales	50 ,,
Tortoise Shells, in chests	50 ,,
Turmeric, in bags	13 cwt.
Tutenague	20 ,,
Unrated Wood	14 ,,
Whanghees (*vide* Canes)	16 ,,
Wheat	20 ,,
Wines and Spirits, in casks	50 feet.
Do. in cases	50 ,,
Wool, in screwed bales	50 ,,
Zedory	20 cwt.

*** The Standard Ton at Bombay for Measurement Goods shall be taken at 50 cubic feet.

Proposed by James Fleming, Esq., of Messrs. W. Nicol & Co., and seconded by William Trevor Roper, Esq., of Messrs. Lawrence & Co., and carried unanimously—"That the Freight on Oil be paid on the full gauge of the Cask, ascertained at the port of discharge."

Proposed by Thomas Stock Cowie, Esq., of Messrs. Remington & Co., and seconded by John Parsons, Esq., of Messrs. Cardwell, Parsons, & Co., and carried unanimously—"That when Freight is payable on weight the same is to be on the Nett Weight delivered."

(Signed) W. F. HUNTER,
Chairman.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

For the Measurement by Callipers, upon Shipments to Great Britain, of Cotton, Wool, Hemp, and other Screwed and Pressed Bales at this Port.

I. That Callipers shall from time to time be submitted to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and if found correct shall be branded with a Stamp bearing the name of the Chamber, to indicate the same.

II. That if, from use or otherwise, any Calliper should get out of order and be objected to, the party objecting shall send the Callipers to the Chamber for examination, and should the objecton be valid, the Chamber Stamp shall be defaced by the Secretary. If, however, the objection is found to be groundless, the Secretary shall give a note to that effect, and the party objecting shall be bound by his decision.

III. That any Callipers found incorrect, and on which the Stamp has been defaced, may be re-stamped after adjustment.

IV. That no measurements shall be held good except such as are taken by Callipers bearing the Chamber's Stamp.

V. That Cotton, Hemp, Wool, and other screwed bales shall be measured as follows, namely, the greatest length to be first ascertained, and then the Bale to be set on either end, as the Shipmaster may wish, and cross measurements to be taken at top over the lashings, excepting the knots, and as near the centre of the bale as possible. That an average of 100 bales be struck by ascertaining the actual measurement of any 10 bales, and proportionately, the Shipper selecting and measuring one-half, and the Shipmaster the other half. Should, however, any dispute or difficulty arise in the selection of bales, either party to have the option of measuring the whole quantity.

VI. That all produce subject to measurement be measured within the day on which it has been ordered to be screwed, provided the order has been given by the Shipmaster or Agents of the Vessel; and that from 1st June to 15th October the same be measured at the Screws; during the remainder of the year, if required, on the Bunder, weather permitting. No Cotton, Wool, or other goods to be measured until a Custom-house Pass has been obtained for the same.

VII. That in the event of the Shipmaster not attending to measure at such hour as may have been appointed by him, the Agent or Agents of the Ship do empower a person to attend on his behalf, whose sanction to the measurement shall be binding upon the Shipmaster.

GENERAL RATES OF COMMISSION.

Table of General Rates of Commission chargeable in Bombay, as revised by the Chamber of Commerce, and confirmed at a General Meeting held on the 11th February 1843.

		Per cent.
1.	On procuring freight	5
	Brokerage, when actually incurred, shall be considered a legitimate charge in ship's accounts.	
2.	On collecting freight	2½
3.	On tendering a vessel (if accepted) for the conveyance of troops; on the amount of the charter party ...	5
4.	On shipping goods of every description on which no commission for the purchase has been charged ...	2½
5.	On shipping treasure, bullion, and jewellery	1
6.	On ship's disbursements when in funds	1
7.	On ship's disbursements when not in funds	2½
8.	On account of passage-money, whether the same passes through the Agent's hands or not	2½
9.	On effecting insurance	½
10.	On settling insurance losses, whether partial or total, also on procuring return of premium, exclusive of commission on receipt of cash...	2½
11.	On the sale or purchase of goods of all denominations (except as under)...	5
12.	On purchases of all kinds with the proceeds of goods sold, and on which a commission of 5 per cent. has been previously charged	2½
13.	On the sale or purchase of ships, houses, and lands, of opium, and of diamonds, pearls, and jewellery of all descriptions...	2½
14.	On the sale or purchase of treasure or bullion ...	1

		Per cent.
15.	On the sale or purchase of cattle	5½
16.	On goods consigned which are disposed of by outcry or sent to a shop, on net proceeds	5
17.	On goods consigned and afterwards withdrawn, invoice cost	2½
18.	On guaranteeing the responsibility of person to whom goods are sold, on the amount of sale	2½
19.	On attending the delivery of contract goods to the Company or individuals...	2½
20.	On collecting house-rent	2½
21.	On sale or purchase of private bills of exchange... ...	1
22.	On effecting remittances by bills of exchange	1
23.	On taking up at interest bills from the Company exclusive of one per cent. on remitting	1
24.	On exchanging Company's securities of all descriptions, or investing money therein, and on transferring Government paper from one constituent to another.	½
25.	On surrendering or depositing in the Treasury Company's security of all descriptions	½
26.	On procuring money on respondentia or on loan ...	2
27.	On recovering of bonds, or of bills for absentees overdue at the time of their being placed in the possession of the Agent	2
28.	On debts when a process at law by arbitration is necessary	2½
29.	On debts when recovered by such means	5
30.	On managing the affairs of the estate for an executor or administrator	5
31.	On recovering funds from a bankrupt estate	2½
32.	On guaranteeing bills, bonds, or debts in general, by endorsement or otherwise	2½
33.	On bills of exchange returned noted or protested ...	1
34.	On granting and cashing letters of credit	2½
35.	On becoming security to Government or public bodies in any case	2½
36.	On depositing Government paper as security for constituents	1

		Per cent.
37.	On receipt or payment, at the option of the Agent, of all moneys not arising from proceeds of goods on which commission has been previously charged ...	1
38.	In cases where the debtor side of the account exceeds the creditor side, including the balance of interest, commission to be charged at the rate of...	1

NATIVE CONSIGNMENTS.—By a Resolution of the Chamber passed unanimously on the 29th of March 1866, it was ruled "that the recognised rate of Commission in England on the sale of Consignments from Bombay taken after this date be 3½ per cent., exclusive of brokerage and guarantee, and that the same be added to the Scale of Commissions sanctioned by the Chamber.

At a Special General Meeting of the members of the Chamber of Commerce held on 30th April 1868, it was unanimously resolved that the following rates for ships' commissions be added to the general list of commissions approved by the Chamber:—

For executing orders to Charter or engage Tonnage in Bombay or at outports ... ... 2½ per cent.

On realizing Bottomry Bonds or negotiating any loan on *respondentia* ... ... 2½ per cent.

On landing and re-shipping goods from any vessel in distress, stranded, or wrecked, or on landing or selling by auction damaged goods from any such vessel, and acting as agent for the master on behalf of all concerned, on the declared value of all such goods as may be reshipped, and on net proceeds of all such goods as may be publicly sold ... ... 5 per cent.

If Opium, Indigo, Raw Silk, or Silk Goods ... 2½ per cent.

If Treasure, Precious Stones, or Jewellery ... ... 1 per cent.

On Moneys expended, *i. e.* on all disbursements made in efforts to save Ship or Cargo ... ... 5 per cent.

On Ships leaving the Port in ballast which have been consigned inward free of commissions, 6 annas per ton upon the English tonnage.

On Ships leaving the Port in ballast which have been consigned inwards and outwards, 12 annas per ton upon the English tonnage.

SHIP FREIGHT INWARDS.

In August 1858 a general agreement was come to by the merchants in Bombay to the effect that Inward Freight, when stated in sterling, or payable at the current rate of exchange, should, in the absence of special agreement, be paid and received at the rate of two shillings per rupee.

The manner in which the agreement was afterwards printed in the Annual Reports of the Chamber led to differences of opinion regarding its proper interpretation, and also as to the original intention of the framers.

Reference was then made to the original draft, which, on being produced, was found to be in terms as above stated.

The subject was brought before a general meeting of the members of the Chamber held on 30th April 1868, when—it having been considered desirable that on a matter of so much importance the agreement should be set forth in such a manner as would prevent all misunderstanding in future—the following resolution, as a re-declaration of the original agreement, was unanimously agreed to, viz :—

"With reference to the payment of Inward Freight at Bombay when stated in sterling, or when stated to be payable at the current rate of exchange, we, the undersigned merchants, do hereby agree that all such freight falling due after this date shall, in the absence of special agreement, be paid and recovered by us at the rate of two shillings per rupee."

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
30*th April* 1868.

GENERAL MEETINGS IN 1868-69.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday, the 18th November 1868, at 12 o'clock noon, to confer on the subject of the proposed Form for Common Contract, and to consider the expediency of taking steps to give practical effect to the same.

Present.

Mr. D. GRAHAM, in the Chair.

Honourable A. Brown.	Mr. C. Gaddum.
Mr. J. Sands.	,, H. D. Dodds.
,, A. C. Gumpert.	,, H. Muller.
,, H. E. Astley.	,, T. E. Taylor.
,, R. V. Reid.	,, C. Macdonald.
,, C. G. Herring.	,, J. W. Brown.
,, T. H. Moore.	,, T. Wilson.
,, H. Lucius.	,, H. E. Bright.
,, C. E. Benn.	,, E. Monnett.

JAMES TAYLOR, *Secretary.*

The circular convening the Meeting having been read by the Secretary,

The following firm was balloted for and admitted members of the Chamber :—

Messrs. Hill, Pollock, & Co. Proposed by Mr. H. E. Bright, of Messrs. Wallace & Co., seconded by Mr. Charles Gaddum, of Messrs. Gaddum & Co.

The Secretary then read the Report from the Joint Committee giving an account of the meeting with the dealers.

After some discussion it was proposed by the Honourable A. Brown, seconded by Mr. A. C. Gumpert—

"That, having regard to the almost universal prevalence in Piece Goods of the species of damage known as Mildew, and to the apparent impossibility of guarding against it even in the best known descriptions of Cloth, the Chamber is of opinion—

"1. That the conditions of the Trade have so altered since 1862, that the recommendations made by their Committee in that year are no longer applicable, but that a continued adherence to them must be productive of much hardship and injustice to Importers.

"2. That the existence of Mildew should not, under these circumstances, constitute a ground of rejection."

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Donald Graham, seconded by Mr. C. E. Benn—

"That the Form for a Common Contract which has been submitted to the Members of the Chamber by the Joint Committee specially appointed to consider the subject, be now adopted as the Form of Contract sanctioned by the Chamber, and that in all cases of dispute referring to Mildew, or otherwise, the Members agree to regulate and settle the same in accordance with the terms therein set forth."

Carried unanimously.

Proposed by the Honourable A. Brown, seconded by Mr. H. E. Astley—

"That the matter be remitted to the Joint Committee in order that they may communicate the Resolutions adopted at the present Meeting to firms not represented there, with a view to obtain their consent to the same."

Carried unanimously.

The Meeting then adjourned after passing a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Wednesday, the 16th December 1868, at 12 o'clock noon, to vote an address to the Right Honourable the Earl of Mayo, the Governor General elect.

Present.

Mr. HAMILTON MAXWELL, *Chairman.*

Honourable A. H. Campbell.	Honourable A. Brown.
Mr. A. E. Ashley.	Mr. T. E. Taylor.
„ C. G. Herring.	„ J. J. Negroponte.
„ T. H. Moore.	„ J. K. Pollock.
„ H. E. Astley.	„ G. A. Kittredge.
„ James Macalister.	„ R. Ahlers.
„ R. V. Reid.	„ H. E. Bright.
„ A. C. Gumpert.	„ E. Arthur.
„ R. B. Sedgwick.	„ Nanabhoy Byramjee.

JAMES TAYLOR, *Secretary.*

The notice convening the Meeting having been read by the Secretary,

The following firm was proposed and admitted a Member after a ballot:—

Messrs. George Lockhart & Co. Proposed by Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, & Co., seconded by Messrs. W. Nicol & Co.

The Secretary then read the Draft Address prepared by the Committee of Management.

After some discussion, and an expression of opinions on some of the subjects referred to by various members, it was moved by the Honourable A. H. Campbell, of Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, & Co., and seconded by Mr. R. Ahlers, of Messrs. Volkart Brothers,

That the Address to Lord Mayo now read by the Secretary, with the addition of the suggestions that had been made, be adopted, and presented to Lord Mayo by a deputation of the Chamber.

There being no other business before the Meeting it was dissolved after a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the Chamber of Commerce was held on Thursday, the 15th July 1869, at 12 noon, to elect a Chairman in the room of Mr. Hamilton Maxwell, proceeded to Europe.

Present.

Mr. W. F. PEEL, *Deputy Chairman*, in the Chair.

Mr. G. A. Kittredge.	Mr. B. M. King.
„ H. E. Bright.	„ J. R. P. Leggat.
„ T. E. Taylor.	„ Edward Walker.
„ J. K. Bythell.	„ C. Macdonald.
„ H. D. Dods.	„ W. G. Hall.
„ D. Graham.	„ J. K. Pollock.

JAMES TAYLOR, *Secretary.*

The notice convening the Meeting having been read by the Secretary,

The following firms were proposed and admitted Members after a ballot :—

Messrs. G. F. Pim & Co. Proposed by Mr. W. F. Peel, of Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co., seconded by Mr. C. Gaddum, of Messrs. Gaddum & Co.

Messrs. Martin Young & Co. Proposed by Mr. W. F. Peel, of Messrs. Peel, Cassels, & Co., seconded by Mr. D. Graham, of Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co.

It was proposed by Mr. W. F. Peel, of Messrs. Peel. Cassels, & Co., seconded by Mr. D. Graham, of Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co., and carried unanimously—

That Mr. H. E. Astley, of Messrs. Ewart, Latham, & Co., be elected to the office of Chairman of the Chamber.

There being no other business before the Meeting it was dissolved after a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Chamber of Commerce was held at the office of the Chamber on Monday, the 4th of October 1869.

Present.

Mr. H. E. ASTLEY, *Chairman.*

Mr. W. F. PEEL, *Deputy Chairman.*

Mr. A. E. Ashley.	Mr. H. D. Dods.
„ D. Graham.	„ B. M. King.
„ G. A. Kittredge.	„ T. E. Taylor.
„ D. C. Stewart.	„ C. Macdonald.
„ J. A. Anderson.	„ H. E. Bright.
„ J. K. Bythell.	„ W. R. Bailey.
„ J. N. Graham.	„ J. K. Pollock.

JAMES TAYLOR, *Secretary.*

The notice convening the Meeting having been read by the Secretary,

The Chairman said that the Annual Report of the Committee was now on the table, and it had been printed and circulated to the Members of the Chamber. He (the Chairman) would propose that it be taken as read to save the time of those present. The feeling of the Meeting being that it was unnecessary to read the report, it was taken as read.

It was then agreed on the motion of Mr. J. K. Bythell (Messrs. Gaddum & Co.), seconded by Mr. B. M. King (Messrs. G. S. King & Co.), that the Report of the Committee be received with thanks, and printed for general information, together with the documents therein referred to.

Mr. H. D. Dods (Messrs. Hutchison, Dods, & Co.) proposed that the members of the Committee retiring do now receive the thanks of the Chamber for their attention to its interests during the year of office now expired. Mr. W. R. Bailey (Messrs. Martin, Young, & Co.) seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. J. A. Anderson (Messrs. Finlay, Clark, & Co.), seconded by Mr. T. E. Taylor (Messrs. Lawrence & Co.)

the following gentlemen were appointed to act as the Committee for the ensuing year :—

Mr. H. E. Astley (Messrs. Ewart, Latham, & Co.), *Chairman.*

Mr. D. Graham (Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co.), *Deputy Chairman.*

Mr. H. E. Bright (Messrs. Wallace & Co.).....
Mr. J. Percy Leith (Messrs. Forbes & Co.) .....
Mr. Gustav Ventz (Messrs. Bell, Ventz, & Lucius.)
Mr. Charles Macdonald (Messrs. Macdonald, Tweedie, & Co.)
Mr. Charles Douglas (Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, & Co.)
} *Members.*

The Meeting then adjourned.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Your Committee have now to report to the Chamber on the leading topics which have engaged their attention during their term of office before resigning their trust to their successors to be appointed at the present meeting.

ALLOWANCE ON MILDEWED GOODS.

When your Committee came into office the subject of the difficulties to which Importers of Grey Piece Goods are subjected under the present system of dealing with cases of mildew was engaging the consideration of the Chamber. At the last Annual Meeting a Special Committee was appointed to confer with the Committee of Management, with a view to adopt some course that might obviate to a great extent the grievance so generally complained of by Importers in their transactions with the Dealers. After repeated consultations, the Joint Committee submitted to the members of the Chamber a common Form of Contract, which was sanctioned at a Special General Meeting held on the 18th November last, with a recommendation "that in all cases of dispute referring to mildew, members should agree to regulate and settle the same in accordance with the terms therein set forth." It was also resolved, in reference to certain recommendations of the Committee of the Chamber in 1862, that the conditions of the trade having so altered since then, those recommendations are now no longer applicable, that a continued adherence to them must be productive of hardship and injustice, and that the existence of mildew should not under these circumstances constitute a ground of rejection. The resolutions passed at the meeting, together with the Form of Contract, will be found in the appendices to this report. (*Appendix* **A**.)

HIGH RATES OF PREMIUM FOR FIRE INSURANCE.

This subject was considered by your Committee early in the present year, and a circular letter, with a statement of facts demonstrating the injustice of the very exorbitant rates of premium charged for Fire Insurance in Bombay, was addressed to all the Insurance Companies in England having agencies here, requesting an early consideration of the subject, with a view to the reduction of rates and a reclassification of risks.

Your Committee regret to inform the members of the Chamber that their letter has as yet had no very useful result. What may be taken as the answer of the Insurance Companies, is the following resolution agreed to at a meeting of the various offices, and communicated to your Committee by the agents in Bombay of the Sun Fire Office :—"That the late fire at Messrs. Grant's shop having shown that there are serious defects in the arrangements connected with the water supply, the Offices must defer, until these are removed, consideration of any further proposal to reduce rates in Bombay." Such a resolution is of course no answer to the arguments set forth in the statement of your Committee for a reduction of rates. Why Calcutta without a water supply (which Bombay has), and with houses and buildings not superior to those in the Fort of Bombay, should be charged only 4 annas per cent. on private dwelling houses, and 8 annas per cent. on shops and warehouses (no hazardous goods or trades), while Bombay is charged 6 annas and 18 annas respectively, is not attempted to be explained ;—nor is there any attempt made to deal with the other facts stated in the Chamber's letter—to the effect, that in 22 years' time (from 1847 to the beginning of 1869) only eight fires of any importance have occurred within the limits of the Fort, including both the *Native* and *European* parts ; that the whole amount paid for losses in that time was Rs. 1,52,780; that on a moderate calculation much below the truth, there had been paid in 20

years for premiums Rs. 15,23,740, giving a percentage of losses on premiums of only 10·05 per cent.; while the experience of Companies elsewhere showed a percentage of losses to premiums exceeding 60 per cent., and that Bombay rates are from 2½ to 5 times higher than the English rates.

In considering what further action should be taken in this matter, members of the Chamber and others interested may find that the true remedy will be to take the insurance risks themselves by the formation of a society based on the principle of mutual protection. (*Appendix* **B.**)

WORKING OF THE COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

Since the last Annual Meeting of the Chamber—when our predecessors reported an entire absence of official information on this subject—two Annual Reports of the Cotton Inspector-in-Chief (those for 1867-68 and 1868-69) have been made public, and a new Cotton Frauds Bill has been introduced into the Local Legislative Council. The Reports of the Cotton Inspector-in-Chief contain a good deal of useful information on many points connected with the cultivation of cotton in this country; but in reference to the usefulness of the existing Cotton Frauds Act, the testimony borne by the reports of the various Inspectors is to the effect that the Act is powerless to prevent or put down fraud, and is practically a failure.

Representations were received by your Committee from some of the principal firms engaged in the cotton trade, regarding the adulterated condition in which Guzerat cotton was brought to market last season, it having been found largely mixed with kuppas and sand, and frequently damped to increase the weight. The attention of Government was called to this scandalous species of adulteration, to cope with which the Cotton Frauds Department seemed utterly helpless, and the establishment of cotton markets at Broach

and other parts of Guzerat, where the quantity of cotton offered for sale was large enough to induce European exporters to send their agents to make purchases direct from the ryots, was suggested as likely to have a beneficial influence, as cotton markets have had elsewhere, in checking fraud. Your Committee found afterwards that a similar suggestion had already been made in the Cotton Commissioner's letter to Government, dated 31st May, handing up the Cotton Frauds Department Report for 1868-69, in which some useful remarks on the subject will be found.

On the introduction of the new Cotton Bill into the Legislative Council, your Committee consulted the members as to their opinions thereon: there was general unanimity regarding the very objectionable character of several of its provisions, and a majority of the opinions recorded were against any Bill at all.

The Bill was examined by your Committee, and a letter, pointing out the serious objections entertained by the Chamber to the Bill in the shape in which it was introduced to the Council, was laid before the Select Committee to which the Bill was referred. An Amended Bill was afterwards published, in which some of the more objectionable features of the first Bill were removed, and this Bill with further alterations has been brought forward in the Council for a second reading, and may be passed before this report can be in the hands of members.

The new Bill both in its original and amended form is, in the judgment of your Committee, open to objection from its proposing to combine the features of a measure of Police for punishing frauds in the cotton trade, with the subject of the improvement of cotton cultivation, by applying surplus funds raised under the Frauds Act for that purpose.

The suppression of cotton adulteration in the cotton trade, and the improvement of cotton cultivation, are ques-

tions perfectly distinct, and in the opinion of your Committee they ought to be kept distinct. On this point your Committee agree with the opinion expressed by the Government of Bombay in 1865, in the following passage taken from the Resolution passed on the first Report on the working of (Bombay) Act IX. of 1863 :—

"The subjects discussed in paragraph 27 [Cotton Improvement] belong more properly to the department presided over by Dr. Forbes, and Government will gladly receive any specific propositions from that officer having for their object the improvement of the staple, and requiring for their successful execution an advance from the Cotton Frauds Fund. Mr. Bulkley should put himself into communication with Dr. Forbes, so that Government may derive the benefit to be obtained from their joint suggestions. It should, however, be clearly understood that Dr. Forbes' duties are to improve the condition of cotton and cotton-cleaning machinery generally; whilst those of Mr. Bulkley and his subordinates are to carry out the provisions of Act IX. of 1863."

Possibly the convenient character of the "cotton frauds fund," suggested the notion of combining the two departments, but such a convenience is no reason for taxing the cotton trade with the cost of improvements by which the ryots will be chiefly benefited. The Cotton improvement department might be enlarged and made an Agricultural department, and the whole subject taken up in a manner worthy of the Imperial Government of the country.

The time has come when it will be necessary for the mercantile community to declare their views very distinctly on these important questions: first, as to the organization of an Agricultural department,—and second, as to whether it is really necessary that there should be a Cotton frauds department at all;—and both questions call for a definite expression of the views of the Chamber thereon. (*Appendix* C.)

IMPROVEMENT OF COTTON CULTIVATION.

Though a large number of samples from experiments made in various parts of the Presidency and elsewhere, have been submitted to your Committee for examination and report during the year just closed, there was nothing of an unusual character about any of them calling for special remark, and particulars regarding the experiments of greatest interest will be found in the appendices to this report. In reference, however, to some samples of cotton cultivated on a considerable scale in Government experimental fields in Khangaon from Dharwar acclimatized, and New Orleans seed, submitted for report by the Cotton Commissioner for the Berars and Central Provinces,—your Committee reported that after a careful examination of the samples, they were of opinion that the weak and somewhat exhausted nature of the staple would be more strikingly developed by further experiments with seed from the same varieties.

Your Committee stated that it was the opinion of the Chamber based on knowledge derived from the inspection of a very large number of samples, that no exotic variety that can be grown in the Berars will equal in value and usefulness the indigenous varieties of the country, known as Oomrawuttee and Hingunghat; and that whatever can be done to maintain the present high character of these varieties, or if possible to improve them, would be the most important service that could be rendered to the cause of improved cotton cultivation in that part of India. (*Appendix* **D.**)

COTTON SAMPLES AT THE BROACH EXHIBITION.

In March last, Mr. Hope, the Collector of Surat, invited the Chamber to nominate two or three gentlemen to join Mr. Greaves, of Broach, and others, and form a jury to adjudicate the prizes for the samples of exotic and indige-

nous cotton displayed at the Broach Exhibition. It was arranged that the examination of the samples should be made in Bombay, where the samples were sent for this purpose, and on the invitation of your Committee three gentlemen, members of the Chamber, competent judges, kindly consented to carry out the wishes of Mr. Hope, and met Mr. Greaves and Mr. Cheetham at the Chamber Office on the 22nd April last. The report of this Committee on the samples submitted, was transmitted to the Collector of Surat for his information, but as it has not been made public hitherto, a copy will be found in the appendices to this report. The cotton in Guzerat last season was spoiled by rain to a considerable extent, but the Committee in their report said they were impressed with the inferiority of the samples laid before them as representing the produce generally of the cotton districts of Western India. In reference to the prizes proposed to be given for cotton experiments in Guzerat and elsewhere with exotic seed, they were of opinion that they would be more usefully bestowed if awarded for improvements in connection with the production of the indigenous varieties. They expressed a decided opinion that all experiments made in this part of India with exotic seed, other than mere garden experiments, have been entire failures, except in the case of Dharwar. And in concluding their report they expressed their opinion that the month of December was too early a period in the season for an Exhibition,—of which samples of our cotton cultivation are to form an important part—as proper samples cannot be sent forward from some of the districts of production for nearly two months later—February or beginning of March. (*Appendix* **E.**)

COTTON STATISTICS.

We are still without statistics of a reliable character regarding the cotton production of this Presidency. The

statistics furnished under a Resolution of Government dated 16th January 1867, as to the extent of land under cotton cultivation to be published not later than October, the appearance of the crop to be published in December, and an annual report of the actual cultivation as early in the year as possible,—are not supplied to the Cotton Commissioner soon enough to enable him to publish the reports near the dates mentioned. Moreover, as nothing has been done to obtain cotton statistics from neighbouring Native States from which a large portion of the supply is received, the best statistics even if promptly supplied, of the cultivation within our own territories, must be imperfect. Still they would be of real service to merchants if made available earlier than at present, and it is to be hoped Government will see that the Cotton Commissioner for this Presidency is placed in a position to supply these reports at an earlier date than has hitherto been the case.

One of the most useful services rendered to the cotton trade of Bombay by the Cotton Commissioner of the Berars and Central Provinces is the prompt supply of reliable reports as to the state of the growing crop, the quantity weekly despatched to Bombay after the cotton is ready, and a summary of the results of the season as soon as it is over. (*Appendix* **F.**)

RAILWAY FROM KHANGAON TO JELLUM STATION ON G. I. P. RAILWAY.

The members of the Chamber will have been glad to hear of the sanction given by the Government of India for a short line of Railway from Khangaon, the principal cotton market in Berar, to Jellum, a station seven miles distant on the G. I. P. Railway. The Railway is now in course of construction, and when completed, which it is expected to be by February next or shortly after the opening of next cotton season, will undoubtedly be a great convenience to all connected with the cotton trade.

It is understood that another feeder to the G. I. P. Railway from a hardly less important district in Berar, viz. from Oomrawuttee to Budnaira, a distance of six miles, has also been sanctioned, though your Committee have no certain information as to the time when the work will be carried out. (*Appendix* G.)

RATES FOR CARRYING COTTON ON THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

At the opening of last cotton season in Berar, it was represented to your Committee by members of the Chamber and a considerable body of the native cotton dealers, that the G. I. P. Railway, with very little warning beforehand, had taken action in altering the conditions on which half-pressed cotton had been carried from the Central Provinces and Berar the previous year, and that the result had been to hinder trade and delay cotton from coming forward at a time when it was freely offered in the districts. Your Committee made a prompt representation to Mr. Knox, the agent of the Railway Company, on the subject, and asked for information as to the alleged alterations that were reported to have caused so much dissatisfaction. In reply your Committee were informed by Mr. Knox that the Company were simply but strictly carrying out the arrangements agreed to at a conference at the Chamber in October 1867, viz. that the density of a bale of cotton should be 10 lbs. to the cubic foot. He further stated that an attempt was made by the native merchants to force on the Company so-called half-pressed cotton bales, the density of which was only 6 lbs., but that these merchants had given way in their demand. These particulars were communicated to those members who had made representations, and otherwise as the objection of the native dealers were withdrawn, your Committee heard nothing more on the subject. (*Appendix* H.)

TARES ON EAST INDIA COTTON.

In February last your Committee received a communication from the Liverpool East India and China Association, complaining of the very unsatisfactory state of the question of tares on East India Cotton, especially in the case of native cotton, and impressing on the Chamber the desirability of adopting such measures as would restrict the tares to 15 lbs. per bale. This communication was brought under the consideration of the members of the Chamber by circular, and after being favoured with a general expression of opinion on the subject, your Committee in reply informed the President of the Liverpool Association, that while the desirability of uniformity in the weight of the tares of cotton bales was admitted on all hands, no scheme of a practical character was suggested that could be commended for general adoption.

Various qualities and weights of gunny and fastenings will continue to be used by different shippers, and while such is the case, it would be vain to expect strict uniformity in the weight of tares. Native shippers, who were most complained of in the matter, are of course not within the influence, or amenable to the counsels of the Chamber. (*Appendix* I.)

MUTUAL ALLOWANCES ON COTTON SOLD TO ARRIVE.

This question was brought under the consideration of your Committee early in the present year, who were strongly urged by members of the Chamber to recommend its adoption in Liverpool as not only just to those merchants who made a point of shipping a superior article, but also as likely to induce even native shippers to export a better class of cotton than that which they usually sent forward. The present rule is that if the cotton is sold for fair and classes good fair or over, the buyer gets the benefit, and

if under the classification, then the seller has to make good the difference. On the principle of "mutual allowances" a sale made on the basis of fair, when it comes to hand, if found to be say ¼*d.* per lb. better than the classification, this is allowed to the seller, and if ¼*d.* per lb. worse than fair, then the buyer pays so much less. The equity of this principle is unquestionable, and your Committee urged on the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association and the Manchester and other Chambers interested in the question, to use their influence in getting carried out a system already partially introduced, which, if brought into general use, could not fail to encourage the export from this port of a superior class of cotton.

From the Cotton Brokers' Association no answer has been received, but the Manchester Chamber told us in reply to our communication, that the system of buying and selling cotton to arrive "had created and fostered a course of reckless speculation, unduly raised and depressed the price of the raw material"—"that while the Directors of the Chamber were desirous of giving every assistance in establishing any legitimate arrangement that will secure reliability as to quality of cotton, they were of opinion that the system of 'mutual allowances' as suggested would have no material effect in that direction, but on the other hand would relieve the exporter from the obligation incumbent upon him of careful sampling before shipment," and more to the same effect.

In reply your Committee informed the Manchester Chamber, that the question of the morality of the custom of buying and selling cotton to arrive, raised by their resolution on the subject, was one which this Chamber did not feel called upon to discuss. The custom has been long established in connection with the cotton trade as also in connection with the trades in most other articles of foreign produce, and was not likely to be altered by any adverse resolutions that may be passed upon it. And your Committee could only express

their regret that a proposal reasonable in itself, and likely to have a beneficial influence in reference to the quality of Cotton exported from Bombay, should have failed to meet the approval of the Manchester Chamber. (*Appendix* J.)

DIVI-DIVI AS AN ARTICLE OF EXPORT FROM BOMBAY.

The few articles of produce available for export from Bombay to Europe as compared with the number shipped from Calcutta has long been matter of regret to merchants connected with Western India, and any efforts made to increase their number even if on a small scale well deserve the attention and encouragement of the Chamber. Early in 1866 a sample of the pods produced from the tree called *Cæsalpina Coriaria*, and known in commerce as divi-divi was forwarded by Mr. Walton, then in charge of the Cotton Commissioner's office at Dharwar, to Government, by whom the sample was submitted to the Chamber for an opinion as to its commercial value. The Committee of that date replied to the effect that divi-divi was unknown as an article of commerce in this or any other part of India, that they were unable to say whether the small parcel of pods submitted was equal to what was produced in Venezuela and other parts of Central America or not, but as divi-divi was a useful article of commerce, and the tree would grow well in the Konkuns and similar districts, the Committee expressed their opinion to the effect that the matter was worthy of the attention of Government, as probably by the expenditure of some labour and attention a new article of produce might be added to the few at present exported from this side of India. This opinion led to experiments being made under the sanction of Government in the collectorate of the Southern Konkun and elsewhere, and a sample of three maunds of pods produced at Rutnagherry was forwarded by the col-

lector to the Chamber nearly a year ago with the view to its being sent to England for report. The sample was accordingly forwarded overland to Messrs. Smith, Fleming and Co., and through their good offices reports from the principal brokers in both London and Liverpool were very promptly obtained on the quality of the sample as compared with the divi-divi imported from other parts of the world. These opinions were considered highly satisfactory, and your Committee in forwarding the reports to Government stated that in their view—they fully justified Government in giving every encouragement to the cultivation of the divi-divi tree. The prices quoted in the reports supplied by Messrs. Smith, Fleming and Co. were as high as have been known for the best divi-divi brought to market, but as your Committee had no means of estimating the cost of production, they were unable to inform Government whether the article can be regularly produced and shipped from Bombay to England at a profit.

From information subsequently laid before the Chamber, Government has shown much interest in this matter; the attention of all collectors as well as the Forest department has been called to the reports received on the sample forwarded to England, the cultivation of the divi-divi tree is encouraged in every quarter where it is likely to succeed, and we may reasonably hope as a result of the exertions that have been and are still being made that a new article of export of considerable commercial value will be added to our present rather narrow list. (*Appendix* **K.**)

WORKING OF THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

The working of the Indo-European Telegraph during the official year just closed, though on the whole more satisfactory than in previous years, has not been without irregularities. During the latter part of November, and the greater part of

the month of December, the working of the line was fitful and irregular, and at the present time there is a serious interruption owing to the line having been cut, which has already lasted for more than a fortnight—an interruption of a character, to which a line of telegraph passing through a country where the inhabitants are often at deadly strife with each other must in the nature of things be frequently liable.

Complaints of delay in the transmission of messages have not been so numerous as in past years, but some of those brought to the notice of your Committee have been of a most vexatious character, where messages have been 8, 9, 10 and 12 days in course of transit even when the line was considered in fair working order. Your Committee had to call the attention of Government to the inconvenience caused by a new form prescribed early in the year by the Telegraph department for telegrams by the Indo-European line. By the use of this form, merchants if they signed their firm and address in full as formerly were charged for doing so just as if the address at foot were part of the telegram, and if only a single word were used to save expense, the telegram could not be considered properly authenticated. Shortly afterwards, and sometime before an answer was received from Government, the telegraph office in Bombay published an advertisement in the papers to the effect that "a message may be transmitted under either a real or assumed name, but the true signature and address of the sender must follow the assumed name. The full signature and address will *not* be charged for, unless included in the body of the message." This conceded all that was asked for, being practically a return to the former practice.

The members of the Chamber now no doubt look forward with satisfaction to the near prospect of the carrying out of a scheme of direct telegraph communication with England *viâ* Suez by private enterprise, which they memorialized the

Government of India two years ago to aid with a Government guarantee in vain. The *Great Eastern* Steamer may be looked for in Bombay Harbour towards the close of the year, with the sub-marine cable for the portion of the line to be laid between Bombay and Aden. (*Appendix* **L.**)

PRECEDENCE GIVEN TO THE TELEGRAMS OF REUTER'S TELEGRAM COMPANY, LIMITED, BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

Some months ago much dissatisfaction was expressed amongst the members of the Chamber at a statement that had been made public to the effect that commercial telegrams forwarded through the medium of Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, as well as the subscription commercial telegrams supplied by that Company to subscribers, were allowed by Government precedence of all other telegrams transmitted between England and India, a statement supported by the fact that Reuter's telegrams were received with greater rapidity than the private messages of merchants. Your Committee addressed a letter to Government, requesting to be informed as to the truth or otherwise of the statement in question, and a report was made by the Director-in-Chief of the Indo-European Telegraph in reply to the effect that "he found that precedence had been given to messages bearing the name of Reuter, which messages were not simply public news, but evidently private and for the convenience of particular parties," and that he had "telegraphed to the commissioner for the telegraph at Constantinople to stop such wholly unwarrantable procedure." In answer to this report your Committee pointed out that it left unanswered the question as to Reuter's telegrams of public news between England and India being allowed precedence of all private messages, and farther that though Reuter's telegrams were to be precluded from having precedence when

passing through Turkey, it was clear they had precedence when despatched from that country; so that telegrams sent to Reuter's agent at Constantinople for further transmission would thus have precedence over all others. The reply from the Director-in-Chief was that "to his knowledge, there had not been any legitimate *authority* given for precedence to news messages on the Indo-European line generally. At the same time he could not conceal his impression that a tacit consent to precedence has been and probably is accorded in outgoing messages to India." Your Commitee in addressing Government further on the subject, pointed out that the report of Colonel Goldsmid afforded ample ground for the belief so generally entertained that the telegrams forwarded by Reuter's telegram company did, in some unexplained manner, receive precedence at some stage of transit over all other telegrams despatched: that by granting such precedence great injustice was done to merchants and the public, and your Committee were at a loss to conceive on what grounds any such precedence could be justified: that if precedence were to be granted to any company or class, merchants were entitled to it before all others, for mercantile telegrams are the chief source of the revenue of the Indo-European Telegraph, but merchants sought no exclusive privileges; all they ask for is that the rule of "first come first served," be strictly applied without partiality or favour to any.

The views of your Committee were supported by the Government of Bombay, and in a letter to the Government of India, submitting the correspondence, His Excellency in Council expressed his opinion "that no such privilege of precedence ought to be accorded," and recommended that the "Government of India should issue general instructions on the subject." Regarding the action of the Government of India in this matter no communication on the subject has as yet been communicated to the Chamber. (*Appendix* **M.**)

FAMINE IN MARWAR AND OTHER DISTRICTS OF RAJPOOTANA.

At the close of last year when apprehensions were generally entertained that the distress then known to prevail in many parts of Rajpootana, might result in absolute famine,—representations were made to the Chamber that something should be done in the matter of a public subscription to raise funds for the relief of the distress which was reported to be so severe. Your Committee, in the absence of all reliable information, whether official or otherwise, did not feel justified in taking such a step at that time, but they represented to Government the expediency of accurate official information being obtained on a matter of such importance, and that when obtained it should be made public as soon as possible, as the prompt publication of official information would be the only effectual means of allaying the apprehensions caused at the time by the exaggerated rumours spread abroad. Government replied that His Excellency in Council would have pleasure in furnishing the Chamber with any information he might from time to time receive, but the districts in question not being subordinate to this Presidency, the report of the local officers were not made to the Bombay Government but to the Government of India, to whom a copy of your Committee's representation on the subject was to be sent with a request that all available information might be supplied to the Chamber and made public.

The Government of Bombay supplied to the Chamber and the press, reports received from time to time from various suffering districts, but there was nothing in these reports that seemed to warrant an appeal to the public or that the distress was greater than the efforts of Government officers acting under the orders of the Government of India would be able to meet.

About two months ago, however, it was pointedly brought to the notice of your Committee by firms belonging to the Chamber that certain native merchants of good standing and intimately connected with Marwar, were going round amongst the merchantsc ollecting subscriptions for the relief of the poor in that part of Rajpootana; where the distress was represented as something terrible,—that they (the firms) were giving subscriptions, but that something should be done publicly if it was necessary to give at all. When this information was laid before your Committee, the Bombay Government were without any intelligence on the subject, but a demi-official communication from your Committee asking for information having been forwarded to the Governor General's Agent, the letters from Colonel Keatinge and his Assistants, which have been circulated amongst the members of the Chamber and published in the newspapers were received in reply. On receipt of these communications confirming the worst reports as to the distress, your Committee opened an account at the new Bank of Bombay for the receipt of all subscriptions that might be tendered in aid of the suffering people in Marwar and other parts of Rajpootana. The latest accounts are of a partially cheering nature, but under the most favourable circumstances, there will still be serious privation and suffering for many months to come.

It is to be regretted that official reports regarding the distress in districts so closely connected with Bombay, were not forwarded direct to this Government and made public through the newspapers, as if this had been done earlier, there can be no doubt the public would have readily responded to any appeal that might have been thought necessary, and much distress and suffering been prevented. (*Appendix* **N**.)

RAJPOOTANA RAILWAY PROJECTS.

The importance of a line of Railway to connect Bombay with Northern India through Rajpootana *viâ* Guzerat cannot be over-estimated, and the subject has on different occasions been under the consideration of the Chamber. Three years ago, on the invitation of the local Government, an elaborate statement was prepared and forwarded to Government on the commercial advantages that would accrue from both the proposed Indus Valley and Rajpootana lines; and a year ago a conference was held with the principal native merchants in Bombay connected with Rajpootana to hear their opinions, based on local knowledge, as to the preferable line between two rival routes. In January last, your Committe addressed Government, strongly urging the importance of giving early sanction to the proposed line *viâ* Wassud and Neemuch, as that which, according to the information available, seemed in their judgments best calculated to meet the requirements of the State, and the commercial wants of this side of India. Meantime action has been taken to some extent both by the Government of India and the Secretary of State, and your Committee regret to say, that in so far as that action has as yet been distinctly indicated, it is adverse to the interests of Bombay and its long standing connection with Rajpootana.

The Government of India is so far favourable that it recommends the line "to be set about at once": this however only as to the portion between Ajmere and Delhi; for as to the line to be taken from this side, branching off from some point on the B. B. and C. I. line, it has not settled what course to adopt.

The view taken by the Secretary of State as regards extension *viâ* Guzerat is unfavourable, he says "if this link [a line from Indore to Neemuch and Ajmere] in the commu-

nication between Bombay and Delhi be supplied, the extension of the Railway [from the Baroda line] into Rajpootana, either by Deesa or by Rutlam, may well be deferred until several more important lines shall have been completed." Your Committee recommended a line *viâ* Wassud to Neemuch because that appeared the best according to the information laid before them, but the Chamber is not committed to any line in particular, and has no interest in recommending other than what may be considered best for the country. But the interests of Bombay and the interests of the country generally in the opinion of your Committee, require a line connecting Rajpootana *viâ* Guzerat with the principal port of India, and it is to be hoped the Supreme Government will soon see its way to give a final opinion on a question in reference to which it is said, in the despatch to the Secretary of State dated 11th March, "that an early decision should be come to." (*Appendix* **O.**)

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION IN THE SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY.

A petition praying that a line of railway to connect the Southern Mahratta country with the G. I. P. Railway in the general system of Railways might be surveyed, before the proposed line from Hooblee to Carwar was finally settled, was promoted by firms represented in the Committee, and signed largely by members and the mercantile community generally. The petition was afterwards handed up to Government by your Committee—who, while hoping eventually to see a complete line, from some station on the G. I. P. Railway to the sea at Carwar—are of opinion that the Northern Section of such a line of Railway should be first constructed. (*Appendix* **P.**)

CUSTOM HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

Representations were made to the Chamber on the subject of the inadequacy of the existing godown and shed accommodation at the Custom House to meet the present and steadily increasing wants of the commerce of this port. Your Committee accordingly addressed Government on the subject, and pointed out that the great increase in the imports overland especially had necessitated applications to the Commissioner of Customs for accommodation for steamer cargoes, which at present it was out of his power to comply with, It was farther suggested that if the ground covered by the ruins of the Post Office were covered in and made over to the Commissioner of Customs, it would enable that officer to meet to a considerable extent immediate wants. In reply Government passed a resolution requiring the area of the old Post Office to be utilised for Custom House purposes, and the matter is now being carried out in concert with the Commissioner of Customs.

In reference to an inquiry made at the same time as to whether the proceedings of the Committee appointed by Government to consider the question of a site for a new Custom House had resulted in any practical proposal having the sanction of Government, and if so, whether there was any probability of the proposal being carried out at an early date, it was stated in the Resolution that "there is no present intention to change the site of the Custom House." (*Appendix* Q.)

NON-WORKING DAYS AND HOLIDAYS AT THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

Certain questions having arisen regarding the custom of the port in cases of engagement to load ships in a given number of working days, and the days that were to be considered non-working days, your Committee, in considering these points, had the further question raised—what were the days,

Sundays excepted, on which the Custom House was closed to all business; and addressed the Commissioner of Customs on the subject, in order that all doubts on the matter might be cleared up. The reply of the Commissioner will be found in the Appendices, but as it will be a convenience to members to have the facts on a point of importance to all connected with the shipping trade of the port in a form suitable for ready reference, the letter will be printed in a separate form, and circulated amongst the members. (*Appendix* **R.**)

THE ERECTION OF A LIGHT ON THE GREAT BASSES ROCK, CEYLON.

The Chamber was requested to give its opinion to Government on certain papers from the Board of Trade on the subject of erecting a Light House on the great Basses Rocks off Ceylon, and the imposition of a slightly increased toll in Indian ports to defray the expenses and cost of maintenance of the Light House.

In reply, your Committee reported to Government that a light on the Great Basses, such as that proposed, would be a great benefit to shipping sighting the light; but that there was great objection to any increase in the light dues on shipping visiting Indian ports for the purpose in question, as there is already a high rate on shipping for the floating light on the Little Basses, and much dissatisfaction at the payment of light dues for this light by ships from Indian ports that neither sight the light, nor go near it. It was further suggested that the proposed light should be constructed at the expense of Government, and that the toll now levied ought with proper economy to be sufficient for the purpose of maintenance.

From a report of late proceedings in Parliament it appears that the work is to be undertaken by the Board of Trade, and that it is proposed to charge an additional toll of $\frac{1}{2}d.$ per ton to meet the cost of construction and maintenance. (*Appendix* **S.**)

THE CONDITION OF MERCHANT SEAMEN IN INDIAN PORTS.

The subject of the condition of merchant seamen in Indian ports was brought under the consideration of the Government of India by the Secretary of State, and the Chamber was requested to favour the local Government with its opinion as to the measures which it would suggest for lessening the evils to which merchant seamen are subject in this port.

Your Committee, in reply, gave their opinion to the effect that the strict enforcement of the Contagious Diseases Act would perhaps do more to improve the condition of British seamen than any other practical measure that could be readily adopted. It was also pointed out that there was a great want of the means of healthy recreation for seamen in Bombay; many would gladly resort to reading rooms, and others to swimming baths or skittle-alleys, if such means of healthful amusement and recreation were available, but a large number spend their hardly earned wages and few holidays in dissipation. It is for this latter class that stringent measures are necessary to protect them from crimps, keepers of liquor shops, and those low haunts the constant frequenting of which produce amongst our seamen such dreadful consequences. (*Appendix* **T.**)

COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIPS.

Your Committee regret they are unable to report any progress in reference to legislation on this important subject. In reply to an inquiry addressed to Government in February last, as to what steps had been taken by the Government of India to give legal sanction to the views on the question put forward by the Chamber, your Committee were informed in April, "that recently some evidence has come before the

Government of India regarding the expediency of the proposed law which is of a very contradictory character." As this reply was considered anything but satisfactory, a letter was addressed to the local Government asking for full information as to the alleged difficulties, and as to what the Government of India proposed doing in the matter. To this letter no answer has as yet been received. (*Appendix* **U**.)

THE SILTING UP OF THE HARBOUR OF BOMBAY.

In the beginning of the present year, an interesting report by General C. W. Tremenheere, R. E., and Colonel J. S. Trevor, R. E., was made to Government, on the representations from the Chamber on this subject. Copies of the report were supplied to the Chamber, and in the resolution which accompanied the report, we were informed that any evidence the Chamber had to offer as regards the effect of the Sion and Chimboor Causeways, Government would be ready to take into consideration.

Before moving further in the matter, it is desirable that the survey suggested by Government to be made by the Harbour Board should be carried out, but we fear there is likely to be delay in the matter, as your Committee have been informed the Harbour Board is at present without the means for undertaking this important work. (*Appendix* **V**.)

ADDRESS TO LORD MAYO.

At a Special General Meeting of the members of the Chamber held on the 16th December last, an address to Lord Mayo, the Governor General of India elect, then daily expected at Bombay, which had been prepared by your Committee, was unanimously adopted, and ordered to be presented on a convenient opportunity after his arrival. The address, with the particulars of the interview accorded to

the deputation, which waited on him for the purpose of conferring with his Lordship on the leading topics mentioned in it, will be found in the appendices to this report. (*Appendix* **W**.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

Papers on other questions of importance which have engaged the attention of your Committee, will be found in the appendices, but it is unnecessary to describe them here in detail. Many references have been made to your Committee during the past year, on points of importance to the mercantile and shipping interests, and in reference to the customs of trade and the usages of the port, which were carefully considered and disposed of in the usual manner. (*Appendix* **X**.)

FUNDS OF THE CHAMBER.

The income has during the year been about equal to the expenditure, and the balance in the hands of the Treasurers at the credit of the Chamber at the present date, slightly exceeds Rs. 5,000. (*Appendix* **Y**.)

In conclusion your Committee have to tender their thanks to the members of the Chamber for their support, and for their ready attention to the questions on which it has been necessary to consult them during their term of office; and to offer their respectful acknowledgments to His Excellency the Governor in Council for the courtesy and consideration with which the views and representations of the Chamber have been solicited and received.

APPENDIX A.

ALLOWANCE ON MILDEWED GOODS.

Resolutions Passed at a Special General Meeting of the Members of the Chamber, held on Wednesday, 18th November 1868.

Proposed by the Honourable ALEX. BROWN; seconded by A. C. GUMPERT, Esq.:

"That, having regard to the almost universal prevalence in Piece Goods of the species of damage known as mildew, and to the apparent impossibility of guarding against it even in the best known descriptions of cloth, the Chamber is of opinion:—

"1. That the conditions of the Trade have so altered since 1862, that the recommendations made by their Committee in that year are no longer applicable, but that a continued adherence to them must be productive of much hardship and injustice to importers.

"2. That the existence of mildew should not, under these circumstances, constitute a ground of rejection."—*Carried unanimously.*

Proposed by D. GRAHAM, Esq.; seconded by C. E. BENN, Esq.:

"That the Form for a common Contract which has been submitted to the Members of the Chamber by the Joint Committee specially appointed to consider the subject, be now adopted as the Form of Contract sanctioned by the Chamber, and that in all cases of dispute referring to mildew, or otherwise, the Members agree to regulate and settle the same in accordance with the terms therein set forth."—*Carried unanimously.*

Proposed by the Honourable A. BROWN; seconded by H. E. ASTLEY, Esq.:

"That the matter be remitted to the Joint Committee in order that they may communicate the Resolutions adopted at the present Meeting to firms not represented there with a view to obtain their consent to the same."—*Carried unanimously.*

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 7th December 1868.

Form of Contract as revised at a Meeting of the Joint Committee held on the 4th November, and now submitted for the consideration of the Members of the Chamber.

1. The undersigned————A. B. C.————hereby purchases from————X. & Co.————the undermentioned goods, at the prices stated, terms cash before delivery if required, less 1½ per cent. discount, and the purchaser to pay the usual brokerage of 2 per cent. Interest at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum from date of sale, or if the goods are sold to arrive, from the date of receipt into seller's godown.

2. The goods are to be examined and taken delivery of within 14 days from date of sale, or if sold to arrive, within 14 days from date of receipt into seller's godown. Any objections or claims of whatever nature are to be made within the aforesaid time, otherwise the seller is not bound to recognise them, nor will he be liable for any claim made after the goods are delivered.

3. In case of any valid objections or claims of any nature whatsoever, except for sea water damage to piece goods, the package or packages objected to are to be taken delivery of at an allowance, unless such allowance be found to exceed 7½ per cent. of the contract price of such package or packages, in which case the purchaser shall have the option of rejecting the same; and any dispute regarding this allowance, or any other point, is to be referred to the arbitration of two European merchants, Members of the Chamber of Commerce, or their European assistants, one to be chosen by the seller and one by the purchaser, and the decision of these arbitrators shall be binding on both parties. In case the said arbitrators are unable to agree, they shall call in a third European arbitrator, who shall also be a Member of the Chamber, or his European assistant, and whose decision shall be final. The arbitrators to decide by whom the cost of survey is to be borne.

4. In cases of sea water damage to piece goods, the purchaser shall be bound to take delivery of sound pieces from any damaged package, provided that such package contains 50 per cent. of sound pieces; should any package contain more than 50 per cent. of damaged pieces, the purchaser is at liberty to reject it.

5. If the goods are not paid for and taken delivery of as above stipulated, they shall be at the risk and expense of the purchaser, and they may, at any time after the expiry of the above mentioned 14 days, if the seller thinks fit, be sold by public auction or by private sale, on account and at the risk of the undersigned; any deficiency in price and all charges incurred through such resale to be borne and paid by the undersigned.

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 7th December 1868.

APPENDIX B.

HIGH RATE OF PREMIUM FOR FIRE INSURANCE.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
29th January 1869.

TO THE ALLIANCE BRITISH AND FOREIGN FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LONDON, AND OTHERS.

The Bombay Chamber of Commerce has had under consideration the subject of the high rates of premium charged by Insurance Companies on Fire risks in Bombay, and I am directed by the Committee of Management to place before you the following statement of facts, in the hope that you will take the matter into your early consideration, with a view to reducing your rates and re-classifying your risks.

The following table gives a comparative statement of the premiums charged on the several classes of risks in Bombay and in England:—

Quarterly rates.

	No. 1. Common risks.	No. 2. Hazardous risks.	No. 3. Doubly Hazardous risks.
Bombay.	0·1875 to 0·375 per cent.	0·5 per cent.	0·625 to 0·750 per cent.
England.....	0·075 per cent.	0·125 per cent.	0·225 per cent.

From this table it will at once be seen that the Bombay rates are from 2½ to 5 times higher than the English rates.

Moreover, it has been pointed out that a mercantile firm in Bombay having an office and godown in the European part of the Fort, and wishing to insure the goods (chiefly piece-goods and yarns) stored therein, is obliged to pay the premium of Class No. 2, called "hazardous risks," while a Manchester or London firm, under the same circumstances, would only have to come under Class No. 1, called "common risks." Taking the figures from the foregoing table, the following result is arrived at:—Bombay rate 0·5 per cent., English rate 0·075 per cent., which shows that a merchant in Bombay has to pay more than 6⅔ times the premium charged to a merchant in England.

The Committee have learnt that the trade of Calcutta is in this respect placed in a much more favourable position than that of Bombay.

The following is a comparative table of Bombay and Calcutta premiums:—

Rate for 12 months.

	Calcutta.	Bombay.
Private dwelling-house....	4 annas per cent.	6 annas per cent.
Shops and Warehouses .. .... (Non-hazardous goods or trades)	8 „ „	18 „ „
Hazardous goods from 10 to	12 „ „	

Loose Cotton rate for one month (the Bombay Insurance Agents being prohibited from insuring for a longer term).

Calcutta.	Bombay.
4 annas per cent.	8 annas per cent.

You will observe that for mercantile warehouse risks there are three rates in Calcutta, viz. 8, 10, and 12 annas per cent., and the Committee are informed that a piece-goods and yarn warehouse, such as that before described, would be included in the non-hazardous class, and would therefore be insured for 8 annas per cent. per annum, while, as you well know, such a risk would here be charged at the rate of 18 annas per cent. per annum.

There has been nothing in the past history of Bombay, in its connection with the Insurance Companies, to justify the present exorbitant rates. Within the last 22 years only 8 fires of any importance have occurred within the limits of the Fort, including both the *Native* and *European* parts, and the number of houses burnt down by these fires is, as per margin, 18. The total number of houses in the Fort, according to the books of the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay, is 1,316, which shows that on average not one in every 1,600 houses is burnt down annually, *including the Native portion of the Fort:* while the charges of the Fire Insurance Offices are $1\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. per annum on the European part of the Fort, equal to 1 in every 88; and $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum on the Native part of the Fort, equal to one in every 80.

1. British Hotel	3	houses burnt.
2. Modee Khana	4	„ „
3. „ „	1	„ „
4. Hummum Street	1	„ „
5. Church Gate Street ..	1	„ „
6. Gunbow Well	6	„ „
7. Borah Bazar	1	„ „
8. Cowasjee Patell Street.	1	„ „
	18	houses burnt.

But the best illustration of the injustice of the premiums which are now paid are the following facts, which have not till lately been generally known. During the past 20 years the compensation paid by English Fire Insurance Companies on this class of risks amounts,

it has been ascertained, to the insignificant sum of Rs. 358 or thereabouts. In the year 1847, however, a fire which, be it noted, *commenced in the British Hotel*, in Marine Street, extended to the adjoining premises, then occupied by Messrs. W. Nicol & Co. and Coles & Co., and the Fire Offices sustained the following losses :—

W. Nicol & Co.'s Godowns.....	Rs.	77,780	0 0
Coles & Co.'s do.....	,,	75,000	0 0
	Rs.	1,52,780	0 0

From this it will be seen that the losses, including those of 1847 amount only to Rs. 1,53,138.

It is somewhat difficult to arrive at a correct estimate of the total amount of premiums collected annually by the Insurance Companies here on any particular class of risk, but the following calculation arrives at a result which the Committee believe is much below the truth :—

Value of Cotton manufactures imported into Bombay from 1847 to 1867, taken from the annual official reports of the Collector of Customs	Rs.	62,51,23,832
Add for difference between tariff valuation and actual value ..... 12 per cent.		
Add duty and other Bombay charges ..... 18 per cent.		
30 per cent.	Rs.	18,75,37,150
Value of imports for 20 years	Rs.	81,26,60,982
Average per annum	Rs.	4,06,33,049

Now, although there appears to be little doubt that some of the Bombay importers refrain altogether from covering their risks, or only do so on a percentage of their value, being moved thereto by the heavy rates now ruling, it may be taken for granted that at least one-half of the goods imported are insured against fire—

Say, ½ of the above sum....	Rs.	2,03,16,524
1⅛ thereon	Rs.	2,28,560

Taking for granted that the goods remain in the importers' godowns and at their risk for four months on an average, this would give* ⅓ of the above	Rs.	76,187
Say for 20 years	Rs.	15,23,740
It has been shown that during the 20 years 1847-67 the losses incurred by all the Fire Insurance Companies in Bombay aggregated	Rs.	1,53,138

The percentage of losses on premiums amounts, therefore, to 10·05 per cent.

Compare this result with the experience of Companies elsewhere; on referring to the Royal Insurance Company's Almanac lately published, you will find at page 65 a table which exhibits the losses compared with the premiums received by that Company during the 8 years ending 31st December 1864. From this statement it would appear that the average percentage of losses to premiums amounts to no less than 64·01 per cent. This is the experience of a most successful, prudent, and well-managed Company, which has "a thousand Agents spread abroad throughout the world," and whose risk is therefore extended over a sufficient area.

These facts and figures speak for themselves, and the Committee can hardly doubt that, on a mature consideration of them, you will see the necessity not only of reducing your rates, but of re-classifying your risks.

The Committee of the Chamber have not thought it expedient to enter at present on the subject of the other classes of risks, and the premiums thereon, though it is manifest they also require reconsideration and reduction.

This is especially the case with regard to the rates charged upon cotton, which have lately, for some unexplained reason, been raised, and are now so extravagantly high that it is notorious only a very small proportion of the cotton exposed to Fire risk is ever covered by insurance.

Trusting the subject of this communication may receive your early attention, with a view to giving effect to its suggestions.

I remain, &c.

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

* To show how much below the real facts this estimate is, I may state that it has been ascertained that the premiums on piece-goods, yarns, &c. paid by *three* firms alone last year amounted to Rs. 86,000.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

To Messrs. Peel, Cassels and Co., Agents Sun Fire Insurance Company, and others.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce, 2nd February 1869.

Gentlemen,—I beg to hand you herewith printed copy of a letter which the Chamber of Commerce has addressed to the various Fire Insurance Companies in England on the high rates of premiums charged for Fire Insurance in Bombay; and I am directed by the Committee of Management to request you will do them the favour to bring the subject in a special manner before the Directors of the Company in England, which you represent here, and to use your influence in inducing them to get the suggestions contained in the letter promptly carried out.

I am &c.

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Extract letter from Messrs. Peel, Cassels and Co. to Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, July 22nd 1869.

* * * * *

We duly forwarded to the Managers of the Sun Fire Office, London, the Circular letter above referred to, calling their special attention thereto, and by the mail last in we received a reply, which we now take leave to communicate, for we do not gather from the advices to ourselves, that any direct reply has been sent by the London Committee of Foreign Offices to the Chamber.

The Secretary of the Sun Fire Office informs us (under date the 25th ultimo) that at a recent meeting of the Offices the subject of a reduction in rates and re-classification of risks in Bombay was carefully considered and discussed.

The Companies, after inspecting a plan of the Elphinstone Circle and a report on the buildings in the same by Messrs. Scott, McClelland & Co. (sent home by the Agents of the Commercial Union and by ourselves) decided on adopting a reduced scale on the buildings forming the *Circle proper*, viz.:—

Buildings used exclusively as dwellings or offices.	8 annas	per cent.
Warehouses, unhazardous goods	10 do.	do.
Ditto, hazardous goods allowed	14 do.	do.

With regard to the question of a general reduction of rates and reclassification of risks as submitted by your Circular letter of the 29th January, the Secretary says that the offices had before them the newspaper reports of Grant's fire, at which there was unfortunately a short supply of water in consequence of the small size of the pipes, and under such circumstances they did not feel disposed to make any change. The following resolution was passed:—

Resolved,—"That the late fire at Messrs. Grant's shop having shown that there are serious defects in the arrangements connected with the water supply, the Offices must defer, until these are removed, consideration of any further proposal to reduce rates in Bombay."

APPENDIX C.

COTTON ADULTERATION AND WORKING OF COTTON FRAUDS ACT.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 19th January 1869.

F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to inquire whether there is to be any report from the Cotton Frauds Department for the year 1867, and if so, when it is to be issued. At the present date the latest information supplied to the Chamber regarding the Cotton Frauds Department and the working of Act IX. of 1863, is the Inspector-in-Chief's report for 1866, supplied more than eighteen months ago, certain points in which were considered in a letter from the Chamber to Government dated 12th August 1867. Since that date no report or official communication of any kind has been forwarded to the Chamber regarding the working of the Act.

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 21st January 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to your letter dated the 19th instant, I am directed to forward herewith for the information of the Chamber of Commerce copies of the documents noted in the margin, being the Annual Report of the Cotton Frauds Department for the year 1867, and the Resolution of Government passed thereon.

Letter from the Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department, No. 250, dated 6th May 1868, with accompaniments.
Resolution of Government No. 3508 A, dated 14th September 1868.

I have, &c.,
F. R. S. WYLLIE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 14th September 1868.

Letter from the Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department, No. 250, dated 6th May 1868—Submitting, for the consideration and orders of Government, the Annual Report of his Department for the past year (1867).

RESOLUTION.—Before entering on the consideration of this report, the Right Honourable the Governor in Council must express his sorrow that Mr. Harrington Bulkley was removed by death within a few weeks of the date on which it was written. For nearly twenty years Mr. Bulkley had served the Bombay Government, and in the offices which he previously held had well merited the distinction conferred upon him by his appointment as the head of this Department,—an appointment which he filled with much credit.

2. The financial state of the fund reported in paragraph 4 is satisfactory, but His Excellency in Council would desire in next year's report to have a more detailed account of the outstanding balances, reported to amount to upwards of Rupees 30,000.

3. The Establishment under the Inspector-in-Chief maintained from the Cotton Fund is detailed in Appendix **F**, and remains much the same as last year, and may be classified as follows :—

Town and Island of Bombay.

3 Inspectors .....
9 Sub-Inspectors ..... } Rupees 4,250.

Ahmedabad and Kaira.

1 Inspector .....
4 Sub-Inspectors ..... } Rupees 1,622.

Surat and Broach.

1 Inspector .....
4 Sub-Inspectors.....
2 Preventive Inspectors ..... } Rupees 2,306.

Khandeish.

1 Inspector .....
2 Sub-Inspectors ..... } Rupees 1,330.

Belgaum, Dharwar and Kulladghee.

1 Inspector .....
3 Sub-Inspectors..... } Rupees 1,424

Sholapoor, Poona, Ahmednuggur, and Sattara.

1 Inspector .....
1 Sub-Inspector ..... } Rupees 1,218.

Sind.

1 Inspector ..... } Rupees 1,018.
1 Sub-Inspector ..... }

Canara and Rutnagherry.

1 Inspector ..... } Rupees 1,118.
1 Sub-Inspector ..... }

The Hubshee's Territory.

1 Inspector ..... Rupees 528.

The entire sanctioned Establishment as shown in Appendix **F** consists, therefore, of one Inspector-in-Chief, eleven Inspectors, and twenty-seven Sub-Inspectors, maintained at a monthly cost, "including every sort of allowances," of Rs. 17,272-5-4, or Rupees 2,07,265 per annum. The actual cost incurred as shown by Statement **A** appears to have been as follows:

Pay of Establishment (column 8).. Rs.	1,87,476	10	0
Permanent Travelling and Conveyance allowances (column 9).. ,,	21,859	0	5
Contingent charges (column 10) .. ,,	14,509	4	9
Rupees....	2,23,844	15	2

4. There is a discrepancy between the sanctioned charge as shown in Appendix **F** and the actual charge as shown in Appendix **A**, which requires explanation.

5. The late Inspector-in-Chief recommended various modifications of the sanctioned Establishments, including the employment of one additional Inspector and one Sub-Inspector—the pecuniary result giving an increase of Rs. 2,443 monthly, whereby the total annual cost will amount to Rs. 2,36,592. As the receipts of the Fund only amounted to Rs. 2,42,242, and as the obligations incurred to the Central Provinces have still to be discharged, it is necessary that the financial position of the Fund and the requirements of the Department should be reviewed before this increase can be sanctioned.

6. The Governor in Council has for some time had under his consideration the necessity of a reorganization of the Departments maintained in connection with the cotton trade. These have been two in number—the Cotton Commissioner and Superintendent of the Saw Gin Factory at Dharwar, an office filled by Dr. G. F. Forbes—and the Cotton Frauds Department composed as stated above. The duties of the Cotton Commissioner have been to supervise the distribution of improved seed, and to collect statistics regarding the cultivation and trade in cotton, while, as Superintendent of the Dharwar Factory, Dr. Forbes has been responsible for keeping the people of the Southern Maratha Country provided with machinery adapted for the New Orleans cotton. The special duties

of the Cotton Frauds Department have been to carry out the objects of Act IX. of 1863, namely, to prevent fraudulent practices in the cotton trade. It is clear that, with even the most careful restriction to their respective duties, these two Departments could not but interfere to a certain extent with each other's functions, and in practice it has been found that this was the case.

7. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council has, therefore, taken advantage of the opportunity afforded by Mr. Bulkley's lamented death, and appointed Dr. G. F. Forbes to act as Inspector-in-Chief of the Cotton Frauds Department in addition to his own duties.

8. The Governor in Council will now lay down the general principles on which he thinks the Department should be worked in future.

9. Dr. Forbes, as Cotton Commissioner and Inspector-in-Chief, will exercise a direct control over the whole.

10. A Superintendent will be appointed to the Dharwar Saw Gin Factory, who will be directly under the control of the Cotton Commissioner, and will also act as his Deputy for the performance of such duties connected with cotton improvement in the Southern Maratha Country as the Commissioner may assign to him.

11. The Governor in Council thinks that the number of Inspectors under the Act may safely be diminished. The report now under review shows that in respect to duties directly prescribed by the Act their labours are much lightened, and the general tenor of all the evidence before Government is to the same effect.

12. In Bombay two Inspectors will probably be found ample. But the Inspector-in-Chief should have a Deputy whose duty it should be to superintend the other Inspectors under the general control of the Inspector-in-Chief, and to visit the districts as required.

13. There should be one Inspector for the Northern districts on the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway, and another for the districts on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. There will thus be four Inspectors retained for duties purely within the sphere of the present Act.

14. There should be one Inspector in Sind, who should be under the direct control of the Commissioner.

15. The number of Sub-Inspectors to be employed under these Inspectors is a matter for future consideration.

16. The four Inspectors employed in Bombay and on the two lines of Railway should confine themselves to the suppression of fraudulent practices in the cotton trade, and in the performance of this duty, though they will all be under the general control of the In-

spector-in-Chief, yet the Inspectors on the Railway districts will continue as now to act in subordination to the Collectors of the districts in which they are employed.

17. It remains to provide for the performance of the duties more properly appertaining to the Cotton Commissioner's Office. Every day is increasing the importance of these duties; while the exertions of the Officers of the Cotton Frauds Department have been attended with success as to diminish greatly the extent of fraud to be suppressed, the case with reference to the improvement of the cultivation is widely different. In proportion as the trade increases by the attention that has been paid to the cultivation of Indian cotton, so does the necessity present itself of continuing unabated the vigilant supervision on the part of the public Officers entrusted with the duty. It is evident that a mistake made in introducing an unsuitable kind of seed, or permitting the use of inferior machinery, would have a more disastrous effect now than when the cotton trade was in its infancy.

18. The Right Honourable the Governor in Council therefore proposes to strengthen the hands of the Cotton Commissioner, and to give him suitable Assistants for carrying on the experimental measures that have been instituted in different parts of the country.

19. Taking it for granted that the cost of such measures ought fairly to be repaid to the State by a special tax on the cotton trade, the Governor in Council can see no better way of meeting these charges than by making them charges on the fund raised under Act IX. of 1863. The cost of the Establishment specially retained under that Act will, as proposed above, be reduced, so that there will be a considerable margin to meet the Cotton Improvement Department, a margin probably enough without raising the fee to the maximum limit of 4 annas per bale.

20. It has, however, been decided that the funds raised under Act IX. of 1863 cannot, as the Act now stands, be used for the purpose desired, and an alteration in the Act is required. But as by the Bill now before the Council of the Governor General it is proposed to repeal Bombay Act IX. of 1863, it is useless to bring forward any amendment of the Act without an assurance from the Government of India that the proposed Bill will not, so far as the repealing clause goes, become law. The Governor General in Council should, therefore, be asked to give that assurance, and on receipt of that a Bill for the amendment of Act IX. of 1863 will be introduced into the Council of the Governor of Bombay.

21. The Amending Bill will also provide for the transfer to the Central Provinces of a portion of the fund in respect of the cotton grown in those provinces.

22. It is unnecessary at present to consider this scheme in further detail, as no effect could be given to it until funds are avail-

able. For the present, therefore, the existing arrangements should continue. It may, however, be mentioned that if the amendments in the Act referred to above are passed, the Governor of Bombay in Council is assured that the scheme now proposed can be carried out without any further charge upon the Imperial Revenues than is already incurred in respect of the Cotton Commissioner's salary and the maintenance of the Cotton Gin Factory at Dharwar.

M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 250 OF 1868.

From INSPECTOR-IN-CHIEF, COTTON DEPARTMENT,

To THE OFFICIATING CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

Camp Mahabuleshwur, 6th May 1868.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for the consideration and orders of Government the Annual Report of this Department for 1867.

2. Having only rejoined my appointment, from sick leave, in the middle of December last, I cannot speak from personal experience of the past year's operations; my remarks thereon may on this account be somewhat imperfect.

3. It will be observed that this report is forwarded unusually late; this has been caused, principally, by references, in explanation of discrepancies existing in Returns furnished by the Accountant General and some of the Collectors.* I would however solicit the sanction of Government to the Annual Report being in future submitted not earlier than 1st May. This would enable the Inspector-in-Chief to furnish more precise information than he has hitherto been able to do regarding the cotton crop of the current season, and the revenue derivable therefrom in fees, as well as to report decisively the results of departmental experiments, for the improvement of cotton in the Mofussil.

4. Appendix **A** contains the Receipts and Disbursements of the Department, which may be summarised as below:—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Fees on Bales exported from Bombay in 1867.	2,38,139	7	0
Press License Fees, Fines, sales of condemned Cotton, and retrenchment	4,103	8	3
Total....	2,42,242	15	3
Carried over....	2,42,242	15	3

* I have only to-day received the last corrected Return.

	Rs.	a.	p.
Brought over....	2,42,242	15	3
Balance on 1st January 1867, exclusive of advances	1,73,599	0	3
Grand Total....	4,15,841	15	6
Expenditure of every description in 1867, exclusive of advances	2,26,529	15	2
Balance in hand on 1st January 1868, exclusive of advances	1,89,312	0	4

5. I have not taken into account in the above statement the advances made from time to time for the purchase of seed and other expenditure, with a view to the improvement of the staple throughout the Presidency, as these are in great measure recoverable. Colonel Walker, in his last Annual Report, stated that the Cash balance on 1st January 1867 was temporarily reduced by Rs. 46,002-9-9 on account of outstanding advances during the year under notice; Rs. 14,069 have been realised towards the reduction of this sum, so that the amount now outstanding reduces for a time our Cash balance on 1st January 1868 to Rs. 1,57,378-6-7.

6. The exports during the past year have exceeded those of any year since the passing of the Act, being 1,80,342 bales in excess of the annual average, which amount to 10,43,708 bales, and 85,044 more than those of 1865, the great "speculation" year. The receipts do not quite come up to those of 1865, when the fee levied was 4 annas per bale instead of 3 annas per bale as now; however, they exceed the average annual income by Rs. 11,497-10-7, and the actual expenses of the year under review by Rs. 15,713-0-1.

7. I would here suggest to Government the advisability of raising the fee to its original standard of 4 annas per bale; with cotton at 6*d.* per lb. it only amounts to a tax of one quarter per cent. which is a mere "bagatelle," and judging from existing circumstances, the price of the staple is not likely to fall so low as 6*d.* for some time to come; besides, whatever the tax may be, it does not fall on the Bombay merchants except when they send home consignments of cotton on their own account, as they make it a rule, I have been credibly informed, to charge it to their constituents in England.

8. My reasons for recommending the raising of the fee, is the claim that has been made on our fund by the Cotton Commissioner for the Berars and Central Provinces, and the possibility of further demands being advanced hereafter. I am of opinion that Mr. Rivett-Carnac is fairly entitled to a portion of our fund, though not quite to the extent he desires. In a return furnished from that gentleman's office in July 1867, the exports from the districts under

his charge, and including the Nizam's Dominions, are estimated as equivalent to 2,75,000 Bombay pressed bales; the fees on which, at 4 annas per bale, would amount to above Rs. 70,000, which sum he asks for; this would be equitable enough, provided the cotton were all pressed or half-pressed in Berar, but only a very small proportion of it is so; quoting from the return alluded to above, I find that only 5,088 bales were full-pressed, and 53,181 half-pressed, so that the balance, or rather more than four-fifths of the entire produce, was sent down to Bombay for compression, in loose "docras," the duty and responsibility of inspection as regards this cotton being thrown on the Presidency Inspectors; the proportion of the fund necessary for the maintenance of the establishment should be apportioned to Bombay, and not to Berar. I am aware that the number of full and half presses throughout Mr. Carnac's districts has greatly increased within the last twelve months, but it will be long before Berar presses all her own cotton, and until she does, I consider that the sum which Colonel Walker, in his last Annual Report to Government, assigned for Mr. Carnac's requirements, is both equitable and ample, namely, Rs. 40,000. I quite agree with Colonel Walker in deprecating a reduction of our present establishment in any way. Any measure of that tendency would seriously impair our efficiency. If the Berar grant and our own expenditure exceed the annual income, the only alternative will be to draw upon our reserve fund so long as that is practicable, after which it will rest with Government to supplement the fund from imperial revenues, or devise some other means of increasing our resources, so as to make income cover expenditure.

9. Appendix **B.** is a statement of cases tried under Act. IX. of 1863; they exceed those of the previous year by 9. I do not myself attach much importance to this return, although the opponents of the Act cite the small number of cases brought forward as a proof of the inefficiency of the department in a Police point of view; they quite forget that convictions under Act IX. are not easily obtainable, and that in all suspicious cases, willingness to remove adulterated cotton, and purify it before offering it again for compression, is readily allowed by the departmental officers; the truth is, that the terrors of the law have had a strong repressive effect on the native mind, and adulteration and fraud is reduced to almost a minimum since the passing of the Act; for the rest, the system of inspection at the presses is sufficient to check all attempts at dishonest practices.

10. There is one description of fraud, however which is still very prevalent in the Southern Maratha Country, in spite of all the efforts made by the Inspector there to put an end to it. I allude to the mixing together of different sorts of cotton, and the introduction of "kuppas" into "docras" of cleaned cotton. This is done at the ginning establishments, which are scattered broadcast throughout the district, and which are not placed under official supervision.

Unless the Inspector can catch the offenders "*flagranti delicto*," it is impossible to get up a case with any hope of obtaining a conviction. Mr. Blackwell has tried on several occasions, and failed. The fraud is actually perpetrated by hired coolies at the instigation of the gin owner, but as already remarked, unless caught in the act, it is almost impossible to trace the deed home to any one, and as the cotton is not "offered for compression or sale" until it reaches Bombay, there being no presses as far as I know in these districts, the evil is at present pretty rife; the gin owners of course are on their guard when the Inspector, or his subordinates, visit the village; these officers may see in the ginning establishment heaps of cotton of different varieties, piled separately, and quantities of "kuppas," intended for the evident purpose of mixing, but they cannot interfere. As soon as their backs are turned, the adulteration is effected, and the cotton probably despatched for shipment during the night. If by a lucky chance the cotton is stopped and examined, the owner pleads ignorance regarding the adulteration, and is quite ready to extract the "kuppas"; the admixture of two sorts of cotton is not so easily rectified; in all such cases, I would solicit the sanction of Government to the services of the detective Police being availed of. Half a dozen well-substantiated cases would do more towards checking the evil complained of, than any thing else.

11. Appendix **C** shows the number of presses licensed throughout the Presidency. From this it will be observed that there is a slight increase, as compared with the previous year, the numbers being respectively, for

1866	Manual labour	280
1867	ditto	322
	Increase	42
1866	Steam Power	150
1867	ditto	153
	Increase	3

The increase in presses worked by manual labour occurs in the Surat and Broach Collectorate, that in the steam presses is at the Presidency.

12. Appendix **D** is a return of cotton gins worked by steam power. There is an increase of 22 in Ahmedabad, and a very considerable increase in the number in the Broach and Surat Collectorate. In 1866 there were 500, and in the year under report 950, or nearly double the number of the previous season. In Khandeish 11 new gins were established at Julgaum, but the 40 which were at work at Bhosawud in 1866, were during 1867 removed from the limits of the Collectorate, owing to want of funds to work them. At

the Presidency 16 gins were at work during 1867. I do not observe any entered in the previous year's return.

13. Appendix **E** is a comparative statement of the land under cotton cultivation throughout the Presidency, during the season 1866-67 and 1867-68. As this return is but an approximate estimate, as far as regards the yield, it is impossible to speak with certainty of the present season's exports, but a reference to the statement will show, that the area under cotton last year was about 4,000 acres in excess of the previous year; the crop however from deteriorating causes, is, as far as I can learn, not likely to be quite so productive; but the exports this year ought to reach at least 1,000,000 bales, which at the rate of 4 annas a bale, would give us a return of two lakhs and a half of rupees.

14. There do not appear to have been any experiments, conducted departmentally, with a view of improving cotton cultivation in any of the Collectorates, but as far as I can gather from records, supplies of exotic seed were forwarded by Colonel Walker to Ahmedabad, Surat, Sind, Sattara, and Ahmednuggur, on the requisition of the several Cotton Inspectors, who applied for the same, at the request of the Collectors, and also of private individuals.

15. Owing in some cases to the seed being of inferior quality, and in others to its arriving too late in the season, the results generally were not satisfactory, but for these the department is in no way to blame, as it exercised no official control over the experiments, and indeed had no connection whatever with them, beyond acting as a medium for the distribution of seed. I am anxious to put this before Government in a proper light, inasmuch as it might be inferred, from certain remarks made by the Cotton Commissioner in the beginning of the year, that this department was responsible for the exotic seed which Dr. Forbes stated he found "decaying in the Mamlutdar's Kutcherry" at Ahmedabad, and for which, he remarked, "the Collector's Department is not to blame." All the seed applied for through Captain Moore, the District Inspector, was distributed to the various applicants, and I presume duly made use of. Mr. Borradaile's remarks, appended to the Ahmedabad Cotton Inspector's Annual Report, afford an explanation of the cause which led to the accumulation of seed in the Mamlutdar's Kutcherry.

16. I think the Cotton Commissioner is somewhat in error when he states that "in Guzerat generally, the experiments can only be recorded as another failure in as far as any practical deductions are concerned." The results showed the unfitness of certain soils, and localities, for the growth of exotic cotton, and the fitness of others. The marked success of Mr. Whittle's experiments at Veerungaum with Egyptian seed, being a very decided proof of the latter. With

the experience gained by last season's experiments both in Ahmedabad, and Surat and Broach, I have every hope that the experiments on the "Hallet system" of cultivation, which, at His Excellency the Governor's suggestion, are to be carried on departmentally this year, will be crowned with a full measure of success. Through Mr. Manley, 2,000 lbs. of Egyptian and 1,500 lbs. of Hingunghat seed were introduced last year into the Sattara Collectorate, and 600 lbs. of Egyptian into that of Ahmednuggur. The Hingunghat is the variety best suited to these districts, and the cultivators have taken very kindly, indeed eagerly, to it this year; there will be a very large increase in the cultivation of this variety, irrespective of the departmental experiments to be carried on on a small scale. The experiments in Sind, last year, were unimportant and on so small a scale that they need not be further alluded to.

17. The operations of the Act during the past year seem to have been attended with that steady amount of success which has characterised them since its introduction. Regarding a measure affecting so many interests, there must necessarily be a diversity of opinion, but it is satisfactory to know, that no complaint has ever been made regarding the oppressive nature of the Act itself, nor of the mode in which its provisions have been carried out by the officers of the department, as was anticipated by some people at the date of its introduction. It is admitted on all hands, even by its most persistent opponents, that beneficial results have followed the measure. Though fraud and adulteration have not entirely disappeared, they have been reduced to a minimum, in spite of the small list of convictions we have to show. The cotton sent to market now is infinitely cleaner, and purer, than it was four years ago, while, as regards the improvement in its quality, we have only to turn to Khandeish for an example. To Mr. Lionel Ashburner is justly due the chief credit of the vast improvement effected in the character of Khandeish cotton; but in all probability he would never have originated the measure he introduced, or carried it out so effectively, but for the aid he received from the Cotton Frauds Fund, and co-operation of its officers in carrying out his views. I may mention here incidentally, that Khandeish gained the first prize for cotton at the late Akola Exhibition, and the reform introduced by Mr. Ashburner is steadily progressing under his "locum tenens," Mr. Sheppard; this year, I believe, the whole district will be sown with Hingunghat seed.

18. Colonel Walker, in his letter No. 458 dated 17th October last, to the address of the Acting Chief Secretary to Government, has so completely answered, in my opinion, the arguments of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, against the results of the working of Act IX. of 1863, as expressed by their Secretary, in his letter No. 116 of 12th August 1867, that I will not trouble myself to dwell at length on the subject here. I would merely quote in corro-

boration of Colonel Walker's opinion, in which I concur fully, extracts from a letter by A. H. Campbell, Esq., published in the *Bombay Saturday Review*, so far back as March last. Mr. Campbell's position in the mercantile world, and his extended knowledge and experience of the cotton trade, render his opinions extremely valuable. He says in one place at the commencement of his letter, with reference to the existence of fraud in the cotton trade years ago: "But let the repressive enactments of Government be relaxed, and I feel convinced that the evil will become as rampant as ever;" and he concludes thus: "when I recollect the dead lock in which shippers sometimes found themselves, owing to the impossibility of getting cotton which they could conscientiously pass, the accumulation of bales rejected on opening at the presses, to such an extent as actually to stop work, and many other inconveniences, I deprecate most earnestly any action on the part of the mercantile community, which shall tend to release the great cotton trade of this Presidency from official surveillance." We can hardly have stronger evidence in favour of the benefits to the cotton trade resulting from the passing of Act IX. of 1863, or a more energetic protest against the impolicy of relaxing the supervision exercised by the officers appointed to carry out its provisions.

19. There is one other point in the letter from the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce already quoted, which I would here notice. I refer to the statement that "neither in Bombay nor in Liverpool do merchants pay any attention to marks on cotton bales, but judge of cotton entirely from samples drawn from each bale." Owing to this assertion, the practice, which at one time obtained in the Presidency establishment, of sending extracts from the Inspector's Press Books, for circulation to the Chamber of Commerce, regarding cotton of an inferior description, on which advances might be obtained on false pretences, was discontinued. On my return from leave I directed that it should be resumed again, and on 21st January last, I sent a circular to all the members of the European mercantile community, stating that Press Books were kept, the entries in which would always be at the service of merchants on application to the several Inspectors. This information has been availed of frequently, and many merchants, both members of the Chamber and others, have expressed their sense of the utility of such information. The Inspectors have on several instances been thanked for intelligence afforded by them to merchants about to advance on cotton of the description specified above. Sampling in theory and sampling in practice are widely different; doubtless the agency employed by *some* merchants is efficient enough for the protection of their interests; but it is not so with *all*, and the fact of several firms availing themselves of the information we can supply them with, proves that the entries kept in our Press Books are of some value to the mercantile community.

BOMBAY.

Inspectors: Mr. Harrison, Mr. Turner, and Mr. Merritt.

20. I will now notice shortly the reports of the several Inspectors. Of the Presidency establishment, Mr. Harrison, Senior Inspector, resumed charge of his duties on return from sick leave to England in July last. Mr. Wilkinson was obliged to proceed home on medical certificate in June 1867, Mr. Turner the Khandeish Inspector being appointed to act for him. Mr. Merritt was transferred from Surat to Bombay last June. In accordance with instructions contained in Government Resolution No. 1799 of 11th May 1867, a division of Press Buildings was made amongst the several Inspectors, as below:—

Mr. Harrison, with 4 Sub-Inspectors.	1.	Colaba Press Company.
	2.	
	3.	Apollo Press Company.
	4.	Fort Press Company.
	5.	
	6.	Hydraulic Press Company.
Mr. Turner, with 3 Sub-Inspectors.	1.	Colaba Press Company No. 3.
	2.	Framjee Cowasjee Press Company.
	3.	Bombay Press Company.
	4.	Prince of Wales Press Company.
	5.	Scott Press Company.
Mr. Merritt, with 2 Sub-Inspectors.	1.	Mandvee Press Company.
	2.	Akbar Press Company.

21. Mr. Harrison's Report is marked G. He describes the condition of the cotton which was offered for compression as good and clear, on the whole, and notices a great decrease in the grosser and more palpable descriptions of fraud, such as the presence of stones and rubbish of all sorts, which were prevalent before the introduction of Act IX. Darwar sawginned cotton was not so good as heretofore, the staple being injured by the teeth of the sawgins, besides which, a considerable proportion of "docras" contained "cheep," and "kuppas" in large quantities. I have already alluded to the origin of this latter deteriorating element, and suggested what I consider an efficient remedy for the same. I will allude further to the former in noticing the report of the Inspector for Dharwar, Belgaum, and Kulladgee. Mr. Harrison states that in almost every instance, when mixed or very inferior cotton was brought to the presses, the owners willingly allowed the bale to be departmentally marked, so as to indicate their true contents. One very satisfactory feature noticed by Mr. Harrison is the exceedingly small quantity of Sind cotton sent down to Bombay for compression, as compared with former years. It was generally supposed that this variety was extensively used in adulterating cotton of superior

sorts; but the law seems to have had a salutary effect in checking this malpractice. Mr. Harrison's concluding remarks (paras. 21 to 25 inclusive) in refutation of the views advanced by the Chamber of Commerce, against a continuance of the Cotton Frauds Act, are very much to the point, but are too lengthy to quote; he quite disproves the depreciatory view taken by the Secretary, regarding the information supplied to merchants from our Press Books, by citing cases where he has been personally thanked by firms for timely intelligence afforded by him to them regarding cotton on which they were about to make advances. I may add that the two other Inspectors, especially Mr. Turner, adduced several instances to the same effect, so that it is only fair to infer, that many members of the mercantile community are not entirely satisfied with the ordinary process of sampling.

22. The reports of Messrs. Turner and Merritt marked respectively **H** and **I** are very much to the same purport as Mr. Harrison's, I will not therefore notice them in detail.

HIS HIGHNESS THE HUBSHEE'S TERRITORY.

Inspector Mr. Boorhanoodeen.

23. Mr. Boorhanoodeen, the Inspector for His Highness the Hubshee's Territory, and the Tanna Districts, (Report marked **K**) appears to have been active and zealous in the discharge of his duties. It is gratifying to know that owing to the constant presence of his boat along the sea board, and the good relations he seems to have established with the Hubshee's people, the boat robberies which formerly were so numerous, have been almost entirely suppressed; Mr. Boorhanoodeen examined a great many bales of cotton during the season, both at sea and at the different Bunders.

AHMEDABAD AND KAIRA.

Inspector Captain A. T. Moore, *V. C.*

24. Appendix **L**, Captain Moore's Report on Ahmedabad and Kaira, contains much interesting matter. He and his subordinates appear to have been most indefatigable in the discharge of their functions, as is evidenced by the very large number of bales and "docras" examined by them. (Return **C** of Captain Moore's report.) Captain Moore expresses satisfaction at the increase in the number of presses at Veerungaum; were the extension Railway to that town carried out, and a branch line from Wudwan completed, which I believe the Kattywar chiefs are willing to undertake, it would effect wonders in stimulating and improving the cotton trade of North Guzerat. There is at present a feeling against Veerungaum cotton in the Bombay market, which partly arises from the dirty and slovenly manner in which it is sent forward; the remedy for this lies with the cultivators, and is easy of adoption. Captain Moore, I have no doubt, will be able, before long to effect

a reform in this connection; I know that he spares no trouble to put things before the "ryots" in their true light, and his personal influence carries weight with them. Popular prejudice has something to do with the depreciation of Veerungaum cotton, as Captain Moore states, on good grounds, that "docras" of the same cotton, forwarded from Veerungaum by rail *viâ* Ahmedabad, and by sea *viâ* Dhollera, command different prices*—the latter ruling the higher of the two! rather an absurd commentary on the merits of buying from samples, and paying no attention to marks on bales! The experiments made with Egyptian seed by Mr. Whittle of Veerungaum seem to have answered admirably, and judging by the estimation in which that variety of cotton is held by Mr. Whittle himself, by the Agent of the Spinning and Weaving Company, and by Mr. Knott, Manager of the Bechardass Company, it is undoubtedly far superior to the indigenous cotton, and indeed to other exotics. The Bombay Chamber of Commerce declared a sample of Egyptian cotton, raised in Guzerat, to be the "finest grown in Western India," and the Cotton Supply Association of Manchester estimated the value of the same cotton at 13 pence per lb., the value of the other varieties, at the same date, being middling Orleans 10½*d.*, middling sawginned Dharwar and Oomrawuttee 9*d.*, Dhollera 9*d.*, Peruvian 11*d.*, Egyptian 12½*d.* Without doubt the soil and climate of North Guzerat are favourable to the growth of Egyptian Cotton; but owing to past failures, the ryots are at present averse, and not unreasonably so, to further trials, on their own account. I hope our departmental experiments this season will set their doubts at rest on this point. Captain Moore's suggestion regarding the remission of revenue to cultivators experimentalising with exotic seed, in event of the crop failing, was, I think, an excellent one, and had it been approved of, and adopted, when made, we might by this time, have seen a considerable portion of the Ahmedabad Collectorate covered with fine Egyptian cotton. Captain Moore's circulars, both to the Sub-Inspectors, and to cultivators and cotton dealers, are, to my thinking, judicious, and calculated to produce good effects.

SURAT AND BROACH.

25. Appendix **M**. Mr. Hewett's lengthy Report refers in detail to every subject connected with the duties of his office during the past year. Mr. Hewett was transferred to Surat and Broach from Khandeish in June last, and I have every hope that his well known zeal and energy will, before long, be productive of as good and lasting effects in regard to the cotton trade of his present districts, as they were in Khandeish. The condition of Surat and Broach cotton, Mr. Hewett seems to consider on the

Inspector Mr. P. W. Hewett.

* The former are supposed (erroneously) to be adulterated with Marwar cotton.

whole favourable, but the present season's crop was unfortunately affected by excessive and unseasonable rain. Though the experiments with exotic cotton last season were on the whole a failure, there was sufficient success to warrant further trials, which will be made this year, and it is to be hoped with better results. The Collector, Mr. Hope, takes this view of the matter, and taking a deep interest in cotton improvement, he has afforded us the greatest assistance in our preliminary arrangements. Mr. Hewett's reference regarding the premature picking of bolls (para. 9(1)) requires no legal opinion, it is clearly not within the meaning of the Act. It is curious, that notwithstanding the increase of ginning factories, the native "churka" seems to hold its own in the estimation of cultivators, the reason assigned being that the seed is less injured after passing through the "churka" than the gin, and is consequently better adapted for purposes of sowing. Mr. Hewett proposes testing this assertion by personal experiments this season. His remarks on the subject of full pressing cotton up-country and the advantages likely to accrue to both buyer and seller, by the Bombay merchant dealing directly with the cultivator, instead of being obliged to employ, as at present, the services of the "middleman," are very apposite, confirmed as they are by the opinion of so good a judge as Mr. Ashburner, who told the Manchester merchants exactly the same thing, in the month of February last. In regard to Mr. Hewett's suggestions in paragraphs 14 to 14(2) and 14 (5) to 14(7) inclusive, I will not allude to the matter here, as it is my intention, in my concluding remarks on the pay of the department (Appendix F), to notice this subject fully. With reference to the former, which Mr. Hope endorses in paragraph 6 of his Memorandum No. 464 of 12th March last, I am of opinion that some such arrangements as that proposed by Mr. Hewett would be highly desirable, and of great benefit to the cotton trade in that part of Guzerat, and I would respectfully ask Government to ascertain His Highness the Guicowar's and the Nawab of Sucheen's wishes on this point, as without their concurrence Mr. Hewett could not exercise his functions within their territories. I would also beg to draw attention to paragraph 13(2) of Mr. Hewett's report with a view to some official definition of the powers vested in our Preventive Boats crews, and "Watchers" establishments, as the case cited by Mr. Hewett seems to have terminated in a complete miscarriage of justice, on purely technical grounds.

KHANDEISH.

Inspector Mr. E. M. Pearson.

26. Mr. Pearson joined his present appointment in Khandeish in June last. His Report (Appendix N) contains some interesting particulars regarding progress made in reform movements connected with cotton cultivation by Mr. Ashburner in 1865. The inferior indigenous variety has been completely eradicated. Over

450,000 acres were sown with cotton last year, of which 350 acres were cropped with exotic seed, such as New Orleans, Peruvian, and Egyptian. None of these succeeded very well, the last named being the most productive. Of the remaining area, about one-third was sown with Hingunghat, and two-thirds with Berar seed, which answered admirably. This year it is hoped the whole of the cotton land in the collectorate will be covered with Hingunghat seed. Reporting upon a sample of the present season's Khandeish Hingunghat cotton, the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce says: "It is by far the most satisfactory sample that has been submitted to the Chamber in connection with the experiments that have been carried on. They are strongly of opinion that if cotton of equal quality could be grown generally throughout the Province of Khandeish, it would not only be the greatest improvement that has yet taken place, but would also prove of incalculable benefit to the cotton trade of Western India." This, coupled with the fact of Khandeish gaining the first prize for cotton at the late Akola Exhibition, must be highly gratifying to Mr. Ashburner, who originated the introduction of Hingunghat seed into the Province, as well as the officers of this department who so ably seconded his efforts. Forty acres have been promised by the Collector for our departmental experiments this season. Mr. Sheppard takes the keenest interest in the subject, and with his co-operation, I have no doubt, they will prove entirely successful. The want of funds seems to have acted detrimentally in regard to the extension of ginning establishments. The number of presses also shows a decrease as compared with the previous year. As in Surat and Broach, the ordinary Native "churka" appears to be approved of by the natives. Though not anything like as expeditious in the work it turns out, as a gin, it answers its purpose well, and costs little or nothing to keep in order. The extension of steam power gins and presses is however greatly to be desired, the advantages gained from full pressing being so great. When this object is attained, and Bombay merchants purchase cotton direct from the producer, the trade will be immensely benefitted, as Mr. Pearson remarks. The subject matter of paragraph 14 of Mr. Pearson's report referring to an increase of pay to the Sub-Inspectors will be noticed further on. The Collector supports the Acting Inspector's recommendation on this point.

POONA, AHMEDNUGGUR, SATTARA, AND SHOLAPORE.

27. Appendix O is the Report of the Cotton Inspector for Poona, Ahmednuggur, Sattara, and Sholapoor. Very little cotton is grown in the two former collectorates, and the amount produced in the two latter, as compared with our best cotton producing districts, is small. It was suggested in the last annual report that this Inspectorship should be abolished, on a suitable opportunity presenting itself to provide for Mr. Manley elsewhere. I am of

Inspector Mr. J. S. N. Manley.

opinion however that it would be inadvisable to do so. Mr. Manley has by his energy in travelling through his districts, and by placing himself in direct personal communication with the ryots, effected a vast amount of good. It is only necessary to point to the large importations of exotic seed, effected through his means, within the last season, while for the ensuing one the quantity of Hingunghat, which seems to be the variety best suited to the soil and climate of his districts, and most highly approved of by the cultivators—amounts to over 11,000 lbs. It is necessary that the presses at Sholapore and Barsee and the cotton which is sent to Indapore for sale should be subject to departmental inspection, and therefore small as may be the area of cotton land (comparatively speaking) in Mr. Manley's charge, it is, I would respectfully urge, sufficiently extensive, and the interests of cotton producers, and purchasers, are of enough importance to warrant the retention of an Inspector for the present at least. Mr. Manley reports the grosser forms of fraud as having gradually disappeared from his districts. The adulteration practised with "kuppas" still exists. This is owing chiefly to the mode in vogue of paying (in kind) the women who clean cotton with the foot roller; the rate of remuneration is low, which is another inducement to carelessness. If Mr. Manley's energetic efforts to drive out the "middleman" (the village "bunecah") and to bring the cultivator into direct contact with the merchant, prove successful, the evils complained of will soon cease to exist. Mr. Manley's letter No. 51 of 5th March last, which is a supplement to his report, and copy of which is annexed, will meet with attention further on.

DHARWAR, KULLADGHEE, AND BELGAUM.

Inspector Mr. George Blackwell.

28. Mr. Blackwell in this Report (Appendix **P**) notices with reference to Dharwar a vast improvement in the purity of cotton. The exotic and indigenous varieties are now grown and gathered separately, and during the year under report, he had no cases under Section II. of the Act, whilst during the previous year there were thirteen; this result he attributes to the plan adopted by himself and subordinates of compelling owners to separate the two varieties previous to ginning, as also to the good effect produced by a conviction in one of the cases referred to. Adulteration by the admixture of "kuppas" with cleaned cotton still however exists, and as pointed out in paragraph 10 of this report it is extremely difficult to check, unless by the adoption of the measure I have proposed. If the merchant or his agent would only aid the department by giving timely information, the evil might be eradicated, as a few cases attended with convictions would have great effect; but they object to do this, on the ground that the "native dealers would not do business;" the only remedy at present, therefore, is to make the owner repack his cotton after extracting the rubbish,

which Mr. Blackwell adopts. Complaints in Bombay are rife that the fibre of the Dharwar sawginned cotton, this year, has been much injured by the teeth of the sawgins. I have also been informed that the quality of the staple has deteriorated, and that an infusion of fresh seed is required. These are matters more within the province of the Cotton Commissioner than this department, and as Dr. Forbes's attention had been directed to both subjects, there is no doubt but that the necessary steps to improve matters have already been taken. Branch repairing factories have been established all over the district. In Belgaum, indigenous cotton is for the most part grown. Mr. Blackwell reports a decided improvement in its condition. In Kulladghee the Hingunghat seed sent for distribution in 1866 arrived so late, and was so much injured by the rains, in transit, that the result was a decided failure. This Mr. Blackwell remarks "is greatly to be deplored, for the experiments made in the Bilgee Petta of the Bagulkote Talooka, with the 25 lbs. I obtained early in 1866, has proved so successful, that this year more than 12 acres have been sown. The seed is much liked by the ryots, and the cotton produced from it is considered in length, strength, and whiteness, to be superior to that obtained from the indigenous seed of these districts, and is valued Rs. 2 more per maund." One ton of Hingunghat seed will be sent to Mr. Blackwell this season, partly for distribution and partly for our departmental experiments. If this answers as well as I anticipate, doubtless there will be a large demand for that variety in future. With reference to the future duties of inspection in the Dharwar Collectorate, I would suggest that they be vested exclusively in Mr. Walton, who has recently been appointed an extra Inspector, under the Act. It is true that Mr. Walton still retains his appointment of Assistant Cotton Commissioner, but I apprehend that his duties at the Dharwar Factory are not so onerous, or important, as to detain him there always. Numbers of Branch Factories for the repair of gins having been recently established in the collectorate, Mr. Walton will, I presume, visit them occasionally. On such occasions, and when "on tour" in the districts, as he was lately, he will be able to exercise his functions as Cotton Inspector. The interests of the cotton trade in Dharwar, may, I think, be advantageously entrusted to the Cotton Commissioner, who has been so long identified with them, with Mr. Walton to assist him as Inspector, under my orders. This arrangement will enable Mr. Blackwell and his subordinates to devote their attention to Belgaum and Kulladghee, which will supply an ample field for their labours. Mr. Blackwell's concluding remarks regarding the salaries of Sub-Inspectors will be noticed further on.

SIND.

29. Appendix Q. Mr. Hughes, Cotton Inspector for Sind, only rejoined his appointment from sick leave in September last, Mr. Beyts having officiated for him during his absence. He

Inspector Mr. A. W. Hughes.

reports favourably—I presume from official record—of the condition of cotton exported from Kurrachee during the greater part of the year. Latterly when nothing but the most deteriorated and damaged portion of the crop is left, a few parcels of very dirty cotton were offered for compression, but these were either cleaned before being pressed, or departmentally marked. Mr. Hughes notices a case of "false marking" of bales in which the prosecution failed chiefly on account of the evidence given by one of the principal merchants of Kurrachee, to the effect that merchants both here and at home, were not guided in their purchases by marks, as they always sampled for themselves. The Kurrachee Chamber of Commerce, in 1865, at which time this gentleman was a member, informed Mr. Hughes through their Secretary, in reply to a letter of his, on the subject, that "certain letters affixed to a bale indicating the contents, as other than they really were, coupled with the owner's or shipper's initials, evidently made up a trade mark; that such false marking was clear evidence of fraudulent intent, and the parties making such marks ought to be prosecuted"! With such conflicting evidence, it is obvious that a difference of opinion exists on this point among mercantile men. The quantity of unpressed cotton shipped to Bombay during 1867 shows a wonderful decrease as compared with preceding years, which is a favourable sign that it is not so extensively used for purposes of mixing with other varieties as was supposed to be the case formerly. Mr. Sub-Inspector McDonald is endeavouring to make a gin, on the native "churka" principle, with the addition of brushes, which he hopes will be suited to the requirements of Sind cotton. It combines, according to Mr. Hughes' report, "simplicity of arrangement with effectiveness of work." The experiments with "exotic" seed last year were on a very small scale, and the result, except in one or two instances, which from their exceptional character, do not in my opinion afford reliable "data," are not reported by Mr. Hughes. There is no doubt that both Hingunghat and Egyptian cotton are likely to succeed well in Sind. Major Phillips, the Collector of Hydrabad, took home with him, I believe, some fine samples of the former grown in his districts. The departmental experiments this season will, I hope, fully test the adaptability of the two varieties named to the soil and climate of the Province.

CANARA.

30. Appendix **R** is the Report of the Cotton Inspector for Canara. In this collectorate no cotton is grown, but the exports from Carwar and Coompta are considerable. In the year under report 7,115 bales and 7,310 docras were shipped at Carwar against 16 docras and bales nil the previous season; 1,642 bales were in 1867 exported direct to England; these figures vouch for the in-

Inspector Mr. R. B. Stranack.

creasing importance of Carwar as a shipping port. Mr. Stranack, with reference to this subject, says: "There are evident signs of an increased cotton trade here. Buildings are being erected, ground levelled for godown purposes, and if the reports which come to hand are to be relied upon, a very considerable portion of the new crop of 1868, from the Dharwar districts, will find its way to Carwar." Mr. Stranack notices the condition of Dharwar cotton fibre, injured by the teeth of saw-gins, owing to the latter not being kept in proper order. At Coompta 217,846 docras were shipped during the past year. In the preceding one the number has not been shown. Mr. Stranack reports in favourable terms on the condition of cotton inspected by him at Coompta, but as adulteration is still carried on to some extent, I have directed him to make this port his head-quarters for at least six months of the year, paying occasional flying visits to Carwar. At Vingorla 58,836 docras were shipped during the past year; about one-fifth of this was the residue of the crop of 1865-66, and its condition was very inferior, but the owners readily cleaned it, at the instance of the Sub-Inspector; the remainder of the cotton exported "showed a remarkable improvement on the previous crop."

31. I would desire before concluding this report to make a few remarks on the salaries at present allotted to the subordinate officers of the department. In the face of Government Resolution No. 1799 of 11th May 1867 on the last Annual Report, recommending reduction of establishments at Carwar, and Sattara, Poona, and Ahmednuggur, and the fact of the claim made on our fund by Berar, which will greatly diminish our future income, I feel diffident in suggesting any increase. Whether Government approve of my suggestions or not, I trust they will give me credit for making them, from a conviction of their necessity, and being, as I consider, only due to a hard-working, and deserving body of public servants. Colonel Walker has already communicated to Government his reasons for not doing away with the Carwar Inspectorship (letter No. 260 dated 24th June 1867), in which I fully concur. I am also of opinion, that it would be inadvisable to abolish the Poona, Sattara, and Ahmednuggur Inspectorship, for the present at least, for though comparatively little cotton is produced in these collectorates, the cultivation is evidently on the increase, and the presence of an Inspector, judging from the past three years' results, seems to be productive of the greatest benefit. I think the present scale of pay allotted to Inspectors quite sufficient, with the exception of the Sind charge, which I would respectfully suggest being raised to the same amount as Carwar, namely, from Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 per mensem; the duties being at least equally onerous, if not more so, for they involve a fair amount of travelling about the district. With regard to that hard-working body of men, the Sub-Inspectors, I would

respectfully suggest the following scale for the consideration of Government:—

Europeans.		Natives.	
Per mensem.....	..Rs. 200	Per mensem.....Rs.	150
,,	,, 175	,,	,, 125
,,	,, 150	,,	,, 100

With "batta" to the Mofussil Sub-Inspectors when travelling in the district, and permanent conveyance allowance to the Presidency Sub-Inspectors, both in proportion to their salaries. Increase of pay should only be made after a fair term of service, and not then, unless well-merited. In extract from the Proceedings of Government, No. 4444, dated 12th December 1863, it was laid down, that "The Inspector should further be assisted, when necessary, by Native Assistants, on the pay of a first Mamlutdar," which at the time was Rs. 200, and is now I believe Rs. 250. I presume it was not then contemplated to employ Europeans in this capacity, but the fact remains that many of our Sub-Inspectors are Europeans.... The Inspectors, one and all, speak in the highest terms of their subordinates, and I am fully aware of their usefulness in keeping up the chain of inspection unbroken, whilst their superiors are "on tour" in the districts; in addition to which they will be of great service in forthcoming experiments, during the monsoon. Most of the up-country Sub-Inspectors are required to travel about the districts constantly, and this entails the maintenance of carriage, which is a drain on their salaries, while those at the Presidency are obliged to live at a distance from the field of their duties, and incur the expense of buggy hire, in going to and returning from the presses. I trust therefore Government will be pleased to approve, and sanction the slight increase I have entered in column 5, Appendix **F**, to the pay of Sub-Inspectors. Mr. Manley has applied for the services of a Sub-Inspector at Indapore, and as it seems a "depôt for cotton" of some importance, I would beg to support his application. I cannot, however recommend an increase to the Surat and Broach establishment, nor to the extra number of peons applied for by Captain Moore. Were our fund better able to bear the expense, I would recommend to Government the propriety of a Preventive Boat and establishment (on the same footing as that of the Sub-Inspector for His Highness the Hubshee's territory), in order to check the robberies from cotton boats, perpetrated between Coompta and Malwan; but though this would be a measure of undoubted benefit to the cotton trade, I am afraid the cost of maintaining it would be two severe a strain upon our finances. For Mr. Walton, who has been appointed an extra Assistant in Dharwar, in addition to his duties as Cotton Commissioner, I would solicit the usual allowance made to every Inspector for office establishment and contingent charges, viz. Rs. 150 per mensem.

32. In conclusion, I will, for sake of easy reference, specify the different Sub-Inspectors, to whose salaries I have recommended an increase in column 5 of Appendix F.

Presidency Establishment. Inspectors Messrs. Harrison, Turner, and Merritt.

Sub-Inspectors Ingle, Kealy, Ardagh, and McDowell, to Rs. 175 each. Sub-Inspectors Richmond, Delany, Myers, King, and Michael, to Rs. 150 each.

Ahmedabad and Kaira. Inspector Captain A. T. Moore, *V.C.*

Sub-Inspectors Nusserwanjee Pestonjee and Nanabhai Nurotumdass, to Rs. 150 each. Sub-Inspectors Rutilal Bapulal, and Mr. J. H. Clarke, to Rs. 100 and 150 respectively.

Surat and Broach. Inspector Mr. Hewett.

Sub-Inspectors Jewanjee Merwanjee and Dadabhai Pestonjee, to Rs. 150 each. Nadirshaw Bazonjee and Hurmusjee Maneckjee to Rs. 100 each. The extra Inspector, recently appointed under the new Preventive extablishment, receives pay at the rate of Rs. 80 per mensem, and "batta" for eight months at Rs. 1-8-0 per diem, according to Government Resolution No. 991 of 12th March 1868.

Khandeish. Inspector Mr. Pearson.

Sub-Inspectors Jonalt to Rs. 175, and Madhorow Ragunath to Rs. 150.

Belgaum and Kulladghee. Inspector Mr. Blackwell.

Sub-Inspectors Williams and D'Silva to Rs. 175 each. Mr. Raymer to Rs. 150.

Dharwar. Inspector Mr. Walton.

Mr. Walton does not require the services of a Sub-Inspector, but will need the usual office allowance Rs. 150 per mensem.

Poona, Sholapore, Sattara, and Ahmednuggur. Inspector Mr. Manley.

One extra Sub-Inspector on Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 (according as he be a Native or European) with 2 Peons at Rs. 9 each per mensem.

Sind. Inspector Mr. Hughes.

Increase of Rs. 100 per mensem to salary of Inspector.

Canara. Inspector Mr. Stranack.

Sub-Inspector Mr. Elsam's salary to be raised to Rs. 200 per mensem. He draws no batta, being permanently stationed at Vingorla, where his presence has been productive of much good to the collectorate.

I would respectfully suggest that if any of the above increases be sanctioned by Government, they take effect from 1st July next.

I would request the favour of being furnished with 15 printed copies of this report, for the use of the Department.

I have, &c.

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector in-Chief Cotton Department.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT showing the Receipts and Disbursements

	Receipts.					
	Sale of Seed and refund of Advances.	Fees levied on bales exported to Europe.	Licence Fees on Cotton Presses.	Fines and sale proceeds of adulterated Cotton under Act IX. of 1863.	Retrenchments for Peons' clothing, savings, &c.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Ahmedabad	930 3 3	....	137 2 0	1,541 0 0	62 8 0	2,670 13 3
Ahmednuggur	66 4 5	..	....	....	....	66 4 5
Belgaum	....	....	....	....	15 6 0	15 6 0
Khandeish	55,402 0 7	....	21 0 0	100 0 0	73 15 8	55,597 0 3
Canara	23 4 0	....	30 0 0	....	22 14 1	76 2 1
Dharwar	527 10 8	....	....	109 4 4	286 4 0	923 3 0
Hydrabad	....	....	....	....	....	....
Kaira	....	....	4 0 0	....	....	4 0 0
Kullndghee	14,381 14 11	....	....	....	....	14,381 14 11
Kurrachee	1 10 3	7,950 15 0	54 0 0	....	....	8,006 9 3
Poona	315 9 9	....	....	40 0 0	53 13 10	418 7 7
Surat and Broach..	....	....	161 0 0	566 9 3	59 7 6	787 0 9
Sattara	....	....	....	....	....	....
Rutnagherry	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tanna	....	....	....	....	....	....
Commissioner of Customs.	....	2,30,188 8 0	681 0 0	....	75 3 7	2,30,944 11 7
Grand Total..Rs.	71,648 9 10	2,38,139 7 0	1,088 2 0	2,365 13 7	640 8 8	3,13,891 9 1

A. *to Inspector-in-Chief's Report.*

of the COTTON IMPROVEMENT FUND *during* 1867.

DISBURSEMENTS.						REMARKS.
Pay of the Establishment.	Permanent Travelling and Conveyance allowances.	Contingent charges of every description.	Rewards.	Advances.	Total.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
15,863 0 0	2,216 12 5	1,046 6 11	....	....	19,126 9 4	
.....	....	....	....	101 10 3	101 10 3	
8,123 8 9	625 7 0	707 4 6	....	....	9,456 4 3	
12,817 3 1	2,719 0 9	1,239 5 7	2,685 0 0	53,921 12 0	73,381 5 5	
14,018 12 0	2,535 2 0	639 10 8	....	....	17,193 8 8	
6,904 1 9	1,525 11 0	101 10 3	....	57 14 0	8,589 5 0	
.....	....	....	....	....	.....	
.....	....	9 7 0	....	....	9 7 0	
.....	....	....	....	....	.....	
10,457 4 2	1,986 9 0	756 14 11	....	1,200 0 0	14,400 12 2	
35,244 15 9	800 5 9	2,657 13 9	....	....	38,703 3 3	
21,813 4 0	3,543 15 0	886 6 1	....	20 0 0	26,263 9 6	
977 3 2	200 0 0	228 2 3	....	....	1,405 5 5	
1,915 12 10	....	....	....	....	1,915 12 10	
5,680 14 0	....	....	....	....	5,680 14 0	
53,660 4 0	5,706 1 6	6,237 2 10	....	2,278 5 7	67,881 13 11	
1,87,473 10 0	21,859 0 5	14,509 4 9	2,685 0 0	57,579 9 10	2,84,109 9 0	

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX B *to Inspector-in-Chief's Report.*

STATEMENT of Cases tried during the last year, 1867, *under Bombay Act IX. of* 1863.

No.	Locality.	Under Section II. of Act IX. of 1863.	Under Section III. of Act IX. of 1863.	Under Section VIII. of Act IX. of 1863.	Under Section IX. of Act IX. of 1863.	Total.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Ahmedabad	..	12	16	5	33	12 Cases under Section III.—Fined Rs. 50 or one month's simple imprisonment; Fined Rs. 50 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 50 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 30, Rs. 40 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 40 or one month's simple imprisonment; Rs. 30 or one month's simple imprisonment and cotton confiscated; Rs. 50 or one month's simple imprisonment; Rs. 30 or one month's simple imprisonment; Rs. 30 or one month's simple imprisonment; Rs. 50 or one month's simple imprisonment; Rs. 10 or 15 days' simple imprisonment and cotton confiscated. 16 Cases under Section VIII.—Fined Rs. 50 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 5 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 50 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 20 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 50; Rs. 50 and cotton confiscated; Rs. 20; Rs. 20; Rs. 30; Rs. 25; Rs. 25; Rs. 40; Rs. 30; Rs. 25; Rs. 50; and Rs. 50. 5 Cases under Section IX.—Fined Rs. 8; Rs. 8; Rs. 5; Rs. 5; and Rs. 5.
	Sholapore	2	2	1	..	5	2 Cases under Section II.—Fined Rs. 5 and Rs. 20. 2 Cases under Section III.—Fined Rs. 5 or 5 days' simple imprisonment and cotton confiscated; Rs. 5 or 5 days' simple imprisonment and cotton confiscated. 1 Case under Section VII.—Fined Rs. 20.
	Surat	..	..	..	2	2	2 Cases under Section IX.—Fined Rs. 20 and Rs. 15.
		2	14	17	7	40	

In addition to above the Inspector Hubshee's Territory apprehended a man for stealing cotton, who was fined Rs. 25 by His Highness the Habshee's Durbar.

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX C *to Inspector-in-Chief's Report.*

STATEMENT of Cotton Presses licensed and worked throughout the Bombay Presidency during the last year, 1867.

No.	Collectorates.	No. of Presses.		Localities in which Presses are situated.	REMARKS.
		Worked by Manual labour.	Worked by Steam power.		
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Ahmedabad and Kaira	109	....	Ahmedabad, Dhollera, Gogo, and Wurrungaum.	
2	Bombay Island	6	135	Fort, Colaba, Mandvee Bunder, and Carnac Bunder.	
3	Canara.....	....	6	Carwar	
4	Khandeish	1	2	Julgaum	5 Half presses and two full presses, all to be worked by manual labour, are in course of erection at Julgaum.
5	Sind	5	5	Kurrachee.	
6	Sholapore	....	2	Sholapore	2 Steam presses are in course of erection at Barsee.
7	Surat and Broach	101	3	Broach City Districts	Out of 3 Steam presses in Broach, one is full press and 2 half-presses.
	Total....	322	153		

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX D *to Inspector-in-Chief's Report.*

STATEMENT of Cotton Gins worked by Steam power in the Bombay Presidency.

Collectorates.	Stations.	Gins.
Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad	206
	Wurrungaum	
Bombay	Colaba	16
	Kalkadavie	
	Cawasjee Patell Tank	
	Coombarwada	
	Grant Road	
Khandeish	Julgaum	131
	Mussawad	
Surat	Surat	950
	Broach	
	Total....	1,303

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Area of Land under Cotton

Locality.	For the year 1866-67.			
	Indigenous Cotton.		Exotic Cotton.	
	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.
Ahmedabad	2,20,026 0	3,24,58,295	18 0	4,525
Ahmednuggur	2,57,037 1	6,96,573	50 0	2,450
Bombay	....	....	....	....
Belgaum	1,30,810 18	16,85,034	1,865 6	24,910
Khandeish	....	....	4,36,336 31	3,05,35,080
Canara	....	....	....	....
Dharwar	1,61,749 21	71,18,658	3,04,688 19	2,00,61,401
Hydrabad	30,593 38	43,00,756	....	....
Kaira	16,835 25	54,91,205	....	....
Kurrachee	1,417 26	3,07,534	42 39	4,354
Kulladghee	2,62,275 5	30,52,26,800	8,823 6	1,11,96,916
Poona	32,599 38	15,79,117	20 2	966
Rutnagherry	....	....	....	....
Sattara	44,718 26	32,47,837	....	....
Sholapore	79,857 17	80,74,759	....	....
Shikarpore	18,720 2	9,44,835	162 0	6,274
Surat	2,30,165 5	2,53,47,734	21 21	362
Tanna	....	....	....	....
Thurr and Parker	1,634 0	2,77,360	5 0	300
Frontier Upper Sind	2,650 0	8,30,800	....	....
Grand Total	12,59,760 22	39,75,87,297	7,52,032 38	6,18,37,538

E.

For the year 1867-68.			
Total.		Indigenous Cotton.	
Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.
2,20,044 0	3,24,62,820	1,90,626 0	1,67,71,321
25,757 1	6,99,023	19,885 24	6,56,343
....	....	....	....
1,32,675 18	17,09,944	1,22,191 5	14,59,444
4,83,336 31	3,05,35,080	....	....
....	....	....	....
4,66,138 0	2,71,80,050	1,81,485 13	82,08,052
30,503 28	43,09,756	30,230 6	43,58,103
16,835 25	54,91,205	11,786 16	56,50,550
1,460 25	3,11,888	2,096 3	3,69,774
2,71,098 11	31,64,23,716	2,78,585 1	82,57,11,640
32,620 0	15,80,083	23,410 15	10,73,799
....	....	....	....
44,718 26	32,47,837	35,043 39	39,56,388
79,857 17	80,74,753	70,930 8	68,02,448
18,882 2	9,51,109	17,986 31	9,17,895
2,30,187 26	2,53,48,096	2,61,271 24	2,29,56,783
....	....	....	....
1,030 0	2,77,060	2,000 0	3,39,440
2,650 0	8,30,800	2,068 0	6,48,320
20,11,793 20	45,94,24,835	12,50,536 25	80,79,11,300

For the year 1867-68.			
Exotic Cotton.		Total.	
Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.
156 0	7,124	1,00,822 0	1,67,78,445
141 24	6,331	20,037 8	6,62,674
....	....	....	....
2,825 11	39,692	1,25,016 16	14,99,136
4,50,383 23	3,15,26,849	4,50,383 23	3,15,26,849
....	....	....	....
3,00,398 26	2,18,98,116	4,81,883 30	3,01,06,168
5 2	....	30,235 8	43,58,103
....	....	11,786 16	36,50,550
36 28	8,270	2,132 31	3,69,044
10,645 5	5,94,78,080	2,89,230 6	88,51,89,720
10 5	514	23,420 20	10,74,313
....	....	....	....
276 9	34,818	36,220 8	40,31,206
9 38	392	70,040 6	68,02,840
2 25	....	70,089 16	9,17,895
76 30	2,359	2,61,348 14	2,29,59,142
....	....	....	....
30 0	1,500	2,030 0	3,40,040
0 20	30	2,068 20	6,48,359
7,64,998 6	11,30,04,075	20,15,534 31	1,01,09,15,375

E.

Cultivation and estimated produce during 1867 *and* 1868.

Increase in 1868.				Decrease in 1868.			
Indigenous Cotton.		Exotic Cotton.		Indigenous.		Exotic Cotton.	
Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds.	Acres.	Pounds
....	....	138 0	2,599	29,360 0	1,56,86,974	....	..
....	....	91 24	3,881	5,821 17	40,230	....	..
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	..
....	....	960 11	14,782	8,619 13	2,25,590	....	..
....	....	14,046 32	9,91,769	....	....	....	..
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	..
19,735 32	10,89,394	....	18,36,715	....	....	4,289 33	..
....	57,347	5 2	....	363 32	....	....	..
....	....	....	....	5,049 9	18,40,655	....	..
678 17	53,240	....	3,916	....	....	6 11	..
16,309 36	52,04,84,840	1,821 39	4,82,81,164	....	....	....	..
....	....	....	....	9,189 23	5,05,318	9 37	452
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	..
....	7,48,551	276 9	34,818	8,774 27	....	....	..
....	....	93 8	392	8,927 9	12,72,311	....	..
....	....	....	....	733 11	26,940	159 15	6,274
31,106 19	....	55 9	1,997	....	23,90,951	....	..
....	....	....	....	....	....	....	..
366 0	62,080	25 0	1,200	....	....	....	..
....	....	0 20	30	582 0	1,82,480	....	..
68,196 24	52,24,05,452	17,430 24	5,11,73,263	77,420 21	2,21,71,449	4,465 16	6,726

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Monthly Expenditure of the 1863, *Sanctioned by Government during* 1867; *and the Estimated*

Locality.	Designation.	Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1867.	Total.
1	2	3	4
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p
For the Town and Island of Bombay.	Inspector in Chief, Cotton Department.	2,458 5 4	
	Inspector	1,000 0 0	
	Ditto	900 0 0	
	Ditto	800 0 0	
	9 Sub-Inspectors—3 at Rs. 150, and 6 at Rs. 100 each	1,050 0 0	
	5 Sub-Inspectors at Rs. 150, and 4 at Rs. 175 per mensem	....	
	Permanent Conveyance Allowance at Rs. 33-12-0 to 5 Sub-Inspectors	....	
	Permanent Conveyance Allowance at Rs. 37-8-0 to 4 Sub-Inspectors	....	
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	500 0 0	
			6,708 5 4
Ahmedabad and Kaira Collectorates.	Inspector	1,000 0 0	
	4 Sub-Inspectors, 2 on Rs. 120 and 2 on Rs. 80 each	400 0 0	
	1 European Sub-Inspector on Rs. 150 per mensem	....	
	2 Native Sub-Inspectors on Rs. 150 per mensem	....	
	1 Native Sub-Inspector at Rs. 100 per mensem	....	
	Office Establishment including Contingent Charges	150 0 0	
	8 Peons for Sub-Inspectors, at Rs. 9 each per month	72 0 0	
			1,622 0 0
Surat and Broach Collectorates.	Inspector	900 0 0	
	4 Sub-Inspectors, 2 on Rs. 120 and 2 on Rs. 80 each	400 0 0	
	4 Sub-Inspectors, 2 on Rs. 150 and 2 on Rs. 100 each	....	
	2 Preventive Inspectors on Rs. 150 each	300 0 0	

F.

Establishment entertained for carrying out the provisions of Act IX. of Expenditure for 1868, *for which sanction is solicited.*

Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1868.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
5	6	7	8	9
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
2,458 5 4				
1,000 0 0				
900 0 0				
800 0 0				
....				
1,450 0 0				
168 12 0				
150 0 0				
500 0 0				
	7,427 1 4	718 12 0	....	
1,000 0 0				
....				
150 0 0				
300 0 0				
100 0 0				
150 0 0				
72 0 0				
	1,772 0 0	150 0 0	....	
900 0 0				
....				
500 0 0				
....				

APPENDIX

Locality.	Designation.	Monthly Salary including every sort of Allowance in 1867.	Total.
1	2	3	4
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Surat and Broach Collectorates—*continued.*	2 Preventive Inspectors, one on Rs. 200, and one extra Sub-Inspector on Rs. 80	....	
	Batta to Preventive Inspectors at Rs. 1-8-0 per diem, for 8 months	90 0 0	
	2 Boats at Rs. 40 each, 2 Tindals at Rs. 15 each, 12 Khulasis at Rs. 12 each, for 8 months	254 0 0	
	Watchers for eight months	140 0 0	
	1 Boat at Rs. 40, 1 Tindal at Rs. 15; 6 Guards at Rs. 30, 20, 12, 12, 12, 12; 6 Lascars at Rs. 12 each, 17 Watchers at Rs. 10 each, 5 Boats at Rs. 8 each, one Tony at Rs. 3, for eight months	....	
	2 Peons at Rs. 9 each for extra Sub-Inspector	....	
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150 0 0	
	8 Peons at Rs. 9 each for Sub-Inspectors	72 0 0	
			2,306 0 0
Khandeish Collectorate.	Inspector	900 0 0	
	2 Sub-Inspectors at Rs. 120 each	240 0 0	
	1 Sub-Inspector (European)	....	
	1 Ditto (Native)	....	
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150 0 0	
	4 Peons for Sub-Inspectors	40 0 0	
			1,330 0 0
Belgaum, Dharwar, and Kulladghee Collectorates.	Inspector	900 0 0	
	Extra-Inspector	....	
	3 Sub-Inspectors, 2 on Rs. 120 each, one on Rs. 80	320 0 0	
	3 Sub-Inspectors, 2 on Rs. 175 each, and one on Rs. 150	....	
	Office Establishment, including Contingent charges	150 0 0	
	6 Peons for Sub-Inspectors	54 0 0	
	Office Establishment for Mr. Walton, appointed Extra-Inspector	....	
			1,424 0 0

F.—*continued.*

Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1868.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
5	6	7	8	9
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
280 0 0*				* As per Government Resolution No. 997, dated 12th March 1868. Mr. Carrol, one of the Preventive Inspectors, has been transferred to the charge of the departmental experiments for improvement of Cotton. His salary is paid out of a special grant on account of those experiments. Mr. Winkler meanwhile takes Mr. Carrol's duties in addition to his own, with the help of an increased establishment.
90 0 0				
....				
....				
438 0 0*				
18 0 0				
150 0 0				
72 0 0	2,448 0 0	142 0 0	....	
900 0 0				
....				
175 0 0				
150 0 0				
150 0 0				
40 0 0	1,415 0 0	85 0 0	....	
900 0 0				
700 0 0				
....				
500 0 0				
150 0 0				
54 0 0				
150 0 0	2,454 0 0	1,030 0 0	....	

APPENDIX

Locality.	Designation.	Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1867.			Total.		
1	2	3			4		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
Sholapore, Sattara, Ahmednuggur, and Poona Collectorates.	Inspector	900	0	0			
	One Sub-Inspector	150	0	0			
	One ditto at Indapore	....					
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150	0	0			
	2 Peons for Sub-Inspectors	18	0	0			
	2 Ditto for Extra ditto	....					
					1,218	0	0
Sind Province.	Inspector	700	0	0			
	One Sub-Inspector	150	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150	0	0			
	2 Peons for Sub-Inspector	18	0	0			
					1,018	0	0
Canara and Rutnagherry Collectorates.	Inspector	800	0	0			
	One Sub-Inspector	150	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150	0	0			
	2 Peons for Sub-Inspector	18	0	0			
					1,118	0	0
His Highness the Hubshee's Territory.	Inspector	350	0	0			
	Naiques	10	0	0			
	2 Peons	18	0	0			
	Crews and Boats for eight months	150	0	0			
					528	0	0
	Total....Rupees	....			17,272	5	4

F—*continued.*

Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1868.	Total.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
5	6	7	8	9
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
900 0 0				
150 0 0*				* If a Native only, Rs. 100 per mensem.
150 0 0				
150 0 0				
18 0 0				
18 0 0				
	1,386 0 0	168 0 0	....	
800 0 0				
150 0 0				
150 0 0				
18 0 0				
	1,118 0 0	100 0 0	....	
800 0 0				
200 0 0				
150 0 0				
18 0 0				
	1,168 0 0	50 0 0	....	
350 0 0				
10 0 0				
18 0 0				
150 0 0				
	528 0 0	....	....	
....	19,716 1 4	2,443 12 0	....	

HARRINGTON BULKLEY,
Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

No. 177 OF 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 24th July 1869.

To UNDER-SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Revenue Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce respectfully to inquire whether the Report from the Cotton Department for the year 1868 on the working of the Cotton Frauds Act is ready, and if so when it is to be issued.

It would be very convenient, in view of the discussions about to take place on the New Cotton Bill before the Legislative Council, that this report should be in the hands of the Merchants as speedily as possible.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

No. 3229 OF 1869.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 6th August 1869.

To THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to your letter dated 24th ultimo, I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to forward for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of the Annual Report of the Cotton Department of this Presidency for the year 1868-69, and of the Government Resolution No. 3226 of this day's date, passed thereon.

I have, &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

For Chief Secretary to Government.

Cotton.

No. 3226.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 6th August 1869.

Letter from the Cotton Commissioner and Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Frauds Department, No. 139, dated 31st May 1869—Submitting the Annual Report of the Cotton Department for 1868-69.

RESOLUTION.—Inclusive of recoveries on account of former years' advances, the total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 2,73,889, and the total expenditure, inclusive of advances, amounted to Rs. 2,59,611, leaving a balance of Rs. 14,278.

2,73,889	
2,59,611	
14,278	

Inclusive of balances to be recovered and balances of former years, there was a cash balance on the 1st of January of Rs. 2,06,086. The amount of unrecovered advances was Rs. 34,430, so that the net cash balance on that date was Rs. 1,71,656.

2. Several proposals for increased Establishments have been submitted, and it has also been suggested that the fees should be increased from three to four annas per bale. The consideration of these proposals may be deferred pending the thorough reorganization of the Department, which will be effected on the passing of the new Act.

3. In all 1,294,291 bales were exported during the year from the three ports of Bombay, Kurrachee and Carwar. This number is 70,241 in excess of those exported in 1867, which was stated to be the year in which the greatest quantity had up to that time been exported.

Bombay	1,240,692
Carwar	26,393
Kurrachee	27,206
	1,294,291

4. The cultivation of cotton extended, it is said, over 2,165,714 acres; last year (including Kolapoor and the other Native States in the Southern Mahratta Country, the Maheekanta and Rewakanta) 2,181,174 are reported to have been cultivated, showing a decrease of 15,460. The deficiency in actual produce is estimated at 78,154 bales, a quantity quite out of proportion to the difference in the area of cultivation. The deficiency is mainly attributable to the badness of the season. The crop suffered much from drought throughout the Presidency, and in the Southern Mahratta Country was subjected to heavy loss from blight.

2,181,174	
2,165,714	
15,460	

5. The Officers of the Department are unanimous in condemning the utter insufficiency of the penal provisions of the Act. Only eight convictions were obtained during the year. For Police purposes the Act may be said to be inoperative, and now that its imperfections have become widely known, the terror once inspired by it in the minds of the ignorant but dishonest trader is rapidly disappearing. Adulteration and fraud seem to be on the increase; and notably so at Broach.

6. If the cotton trade is to be protected at all by special enactment, it is clear that the present law must be revised, and that too without delay. It is sufficient to remark that Police supervision to be effectual must mainly be confined to the Presses.

7. The establishment of markets will doubtless afford much facility to the trade, and will tend to fair dealing. Government are glad to learn of the success that has attended the efforts in this direction at Julgaum and Barsee, and hope that similar success may be met with at Broach and Sholapoor.

8. Very important results may be anticipated from the systematic experiments that are now being made in different parts of the Presidency with varieties of cotton under the supervision of the practical men whose services have recently been secured. As yet there has not been sufficient time to judge of the success or otherwise of these experiments. Mr. Hewett appears to have met with marked success in his attempt at cultivating indigenous cotton in a description of soil not hitherto supposed to be adapted to it.

9. Shawls or Turbans, of the value of Rs. 100 each, may be given to the Mamlutdars of Veerumgam and Marheh.

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 139A OF 1869.

From Dr. G. F. FORBES,

Cotton Commissioner and
Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Frauds Department,

To THE CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT.

Bombay, 31*st May* 1869.

SIR,—I have now the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Cotton Department for 1868-69.

2. The first document appended (marked **A**) is a Statement showing the receipts and disbursements of the past year, of which the following is an abstract :—

Receipts.	Rs.
Fees on bales exported in 1868	2,51,222
Fees on licenses granted to press-owners, fines, sale proceeds of confiscated cotton, and deductions and savings from salaries	4,338
Advances recovered in 1868	18,329
Carried over....Total Rs.	2,73,889

Brought over....	2,73,889
Add—	
Balance on 1st January 1868, exclusive of advances	1,57,378
Advances in 1868, to be recovered	2,496
Advances of former years to be recovered.....	31,934
Grand Total Rs.	4,65,697

Disbursements.

Expenditure of every description in 1868, exclusive of advances.....	2,38,786
Advances in 1868	20,825
Total Rs.	2,59,611
Balance on 1st January 1869, inclusive of advances to be recovered	2,06,086

3. The amount of advances unrecovered on the 1st January 1869 was Rs. 34,430, which reduces the cash balance on that day to Rs. 1,71,656.

4. I do not anticipate the recovery of more than a small portion of the above sum of Rs. 34,430. A considerable part of it was paid on account of the purchase of superior seed distributed to the ryots in place of that ordinarily procurable in the market. And about one-half of the amount was expended in conducting cotton experiments last year, which will be more more particularly referred to in a subsequent part of this report. I am not yet in a position to state the exact amount irrecoverable. When I can ascertain it, I shall do myself the honour of soliciting the sanction of Government to its being written off the accounts.

5. The number of bales exported in 1868 is 1,294,291, as shown in the margin. It deserves to be noted that this number exceeds even that of 1867, with regard to which it was remarked by the late Inspector-in-Chief in the last Annual Report that the exports during that year "have exceeded those of any year since the passing of the Act, being 180,342 bales in excess of the annual average, which amounts to 1,043,708 bales, and 85,044 more than those of 1865, the great 'speculation' year."

From Bombay	1,240,692
From Carwar	26,593
From Sind	27,206
Total....	1,294,291

6. On calculating the total amount of fees according to the number of bales exported in 1868, and comparing it with the amount of fees actually received as shown in Appendix **A**, a discrepancy is apparent, the former being Rs. 2,42,679, while the latter is Rs.

2,51,222. A similar difference was noticed by the late Inspector-in-Chief in reference to the receipts and exports of 1867, and was thus explained by the Commissioner of Customs:—

"The cause of the difference pointed out by you is, that the receipts on account of fees shown were the actual collections during the year, while the number of bales shown in the Statements forwarded from this Office were from the statistics registered in the Reporter General's Department, and it so happens that bales manifested and exported about the end of the year are registered in the succeeding year, while fee thereon has been collected in the year in which they were exported. It cannot, therefore, be expected that the actual collections will ever tally with the amount calculated on the number of bales shown by the statistical returns."

7. The receipts in 1868, excluding advances, exceed the expenditure of the year by Rs. 16,774. If to the expenditure be added the cost of the cotton experiments in 1868, which are now put to the separate account of Advances, that balance would be almost entirely absorbed.

8. It thus becomes necessary to consider whether the small fee of 3 annas per bale, which forms the main source of our income, should not be increased to the limit of 4 annas, as provided by the Cotton Frauds Act. This is, however, a question on which it is needless for me now to enter. Its consideration might appropriately be deferred till the introduction of the arrangements which Government contemplate making as soon as the new Cotton Frauds Bill shall have passed into law.

9. Appendix B is a Statement showing the monthly expenditure in 1868 of the Establishment entertained under Act IX. of 1863, as sanctioned by Government, and the expenditure for 1869-70, for which sanction is solicited. It will be observed from this Statement that I have not proposed any change in the Establishment for 1869-70. This I consider unnecessary in the near prospect of the re-organisation of the Department.

10. In the Government Resolution No. 3508 A, of 14th September last, a discrepancy was noticed between the expenditure on account of Establishment entered in a similar Statement accompanying the Annual Report for 1867 and the actual expenditure as shown in the Statement then submitted, similar to Appendix A. In explanation of that difference, I beg to state that the actual expenditure included several items paid under the authority of special Resolutions of Government, but not entered in the former Statement, such as batta and railway fares for clerks and other subordinates, pay of extra Establishment entertained by the Commissioner of Customs for the collection of fees on cotton bales, and payments on account of salary to Messrs. Harrison, Wilkinson, and Hughes, during their absence in 1867, the Officers appointed to Act for them

having been allowed the full salaries of the appointments. The difference similarly observable in Appendices **A** and **B** now submitted are due in the same way to extra expenditure specially sanctioned by Government but not included in Appendix **B**.

11. From Appendix **C**, which is a Statement of Cotton Presses licensed and worked throughout the Bombay Presidency during the past year contrasted with those in 1867, it will be seen that there were in 1868-69 altogether 294 presses worked by manual labour, and 171 worked by steam power. In 1867 there were only 222 of the former and 153 of the latter. There has thus been an increase since in the number of both, which it is satisfactory to note.

12. Appendix **D** is a Statement of Cotton Gins worked by steam power, with a column showing the comparative number in the last year, from which it will appear that there is a decrease of eleven gins in Ahmedabad and six in Bombay. In the latter case the decrease is due to a mistake made in last year's Statement, in which six cotton openers were entered as gins. The error has been corrected in the present Statement. The gins in question are of the description commonly known as the McArthy Cotton Gin, which, with the exception of the Native Churka, is the only machine at present in use for cleaning indigenous cotton. As the entire supersession of the Native Churka is on all accounts to be desired, it is unsatisfactory to observe that the number of the McArthy Gins has not increased.

13. The next document I have to refer to is a Statement (marked **E**) of cases tried in 1868-69 under the Cotton Frauds Act. The cases, it will be observed, are very few in number. This is not to be wondered at, considering how difficult it is to obtain convictions in the present state of the law, a difficulty which must increase as the defects in the Act are more understood and offenders become aware of the facility with which its provisions may be evaded.

14. On this subject I may observe that since the Act came into operation it does not seem to have ever been found very effective as an instrument of securing convictions, for I notice in all the previous Annual Reports of the Cotton Frauds Department allusions to the fewness of the convictions obtained. I will, however, venture to say that if the merits of each of the cases that have failed be inquired into, they will one and all be found to represent gross infringements of that protection to the trade which it was hoped would be afforded to it under the provisions of Act IX. of 1863.

15. To those who would measure the usefulness or efficiency of the Department by the number of cases brought up for trial, I would point out that, even when complained to, the Cotton Inspectors are naturally unwilling to incur the odium of prosecuting offenders against whom no conviction can be secured, feeling, as they must, that every fresh instance of failure can only have the effect of

exposing the weakness of the authority on which they are acting. Even District Magistrates, who might be inclined to decide a cotton fraud case according to the *spirit* of the law, may well hesitate to pass a decision which they know is likely to be afterwards reversed on appeal when the *letter* only is considered or adhered to.

16. With regard to the expediency of legislation for the protection of the cotton trade as it at present exists in this Presidency, whatever opinions may have existed when the introduction of an Act was first talked of, I can only say now, that, in as far as I am able to judge from my interviews with merchants and others interested to any considerable extent in the integrity of the cotton trade, that the general feeling amongst all classes is in favour of the continuance of the Act. I may even go further, and say that I believe that any proposal for its abolition would be strenuously deprecated by the majority of the mercantile community. But, at the same time, I must add that considerable diversity of opinion exists as to the form which legislation should assume, and as to the particular branches of the trade to which it should be extended; and if the object is to satisfy all parties, the difficulty will be to reconcile these differences, which in some cases are a little tinged by local or selfish interests and motives.

17. Some Press Companies desire the removal of all supervision from Presses at the Presidency—a proposal which virtually means the withdrawal of all cotton trade and dealing in Bombay from supervision and control, but the experien e of the last four or five years' operation of the Act proves that, without some control at the chief port of shipment, whilst cotton continues to be pressed there, no up-country measures that can be devised would of themselves suffice to afford that protection to the trade which is looked for from legislation; and therefore, although some inconvenience or trouble is unavoidably entailed, parties in both quarters must be prepared to give and take for the general good.

18. On the 9th November last, the Inspectors were specially called upon to relate their individual experiences of the causes which have led to the admitted inefficiency of the present Act, the amendment of which was then, as it is now, under consideration. A few of the leading points then brought forward by them may here be appropriately noticed.

19. Mr. Harrison, Senior Inspector in Bombay, first draws attention to the fact that section II. of the Act is rendered inoperative by the use therein of the words "fraudulently and dishonestly," and points to the impossibility of obtaining a conviction, even in the grossest cases of adulteration met with in the course of his inspection, when the onus also falls upon him of proving fraudulent intention. He submits that when the character of the adulteration affords unequivocal proof of its having been wilful, the parties implicated should not be protected by any reference to their intention; and

with regard to the mixture of good cotton with old and inferior, he gives the following quotation of the opinion expressed by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce :—

"The most serious evil merchants have to complain of in the matter of cotton adulteration is the mixing of good and bad qualities of the same variety in the same bale. For example, it is a common practice to mix new Oomrawuttee with old, by putting in the same bale good cotton on the outside from which samples are usually taken, and inside old and inferior cotton of the same variety. This holds equally true of all other descriptions of cotton known in the Bombay market. There may be a difference of 20 per cent. between the values of the two kinds of cotton in the same bale, yet of this species of fraud, which frequently causes much loss to purchasers, and is detrimental to the best interests of the cotton trade, the Cotton Frauds' Act takes no account. This is a serious defect in the law."

And in his comments upon the above expression of opinion by the Chamber, the Senior Inspector makes the following statement :

"I have now further to state my conviction that, unless the mere act of mixing new and good cotton with old and inferior be made penal without reference to motives, very little will be gained by legislating on the subject."

20. Mr. Merritt, also an Inspector in Bombay, represents the necessity of legally requiring that bales containing what may be termed refuse, viz., "pickings" and "sweepings," or "damaged cotton," should be marked with those words at the Presses, as the Act does not provide for this being done. Many of the Press-owners conform to this practice at the request of the Inspectors, but there are others who refuse to do so, and upon them compliance cannot be enforced.

21. From the Mofussil, Captain Moore, Inspector for Ahmedabad, submitted a full and elaborate report, in which the most important points dwelt upon were as follows :—

1*st*. A strong recommendation that the mixing of old and new cotton, that is the cotton of different seasons' growth, be prohibited. In giving his local experience he states as follows :—

"Here, as a general rule, there is no reason whatever for such an admixture, except a fraudulent one. When such mixture does take place the last year's (or old cotton) is usually found in the centre of the package, the inference being that the owner was aware of the difference in value, and so endeavoured to place it beyond immediate recognition and discovery."

2*nd*. The necessity of omitting the words "fraudulently and dishonestly" from section III. In advocating their withdrawal, Captain Moore states—"I know the difficulty of proving to the

satisfaction of the Magistrate that the offence, though admitted, was committed fraudulently or dishonestly." He submits that it should be left entirely to the discretion of the Magistrate, or trying authority, to decide the question of motive.

22. With regard to *Pressing*, and the powers vested in Inspectors, Captain Moore represents that it would be better to place the power of granting licenses in the hands of Inspectors of the Districts, and that if this were done it would give them an influence which would enable them to exercise a salutary check over practices which at present impede them in the performance of their duties. He also represents that the hands of the District Inspectors should be strengthened by their having the power conferred upon them of suspending licenses for a given period in the case of grave offences on the part of Press-owners.

23. Lastly, the fact that Inspectors are not empowered by the present Act to examine stored cotton, except under conditions which admit of portions of it being carried away without any inspection, is complained of by Captain Moore as an evil which operates against the good name and efficiency of the Department, inasmuch as he finds that such cotton may be passed through his own division without his having the power of subjecting it to inspection; and when it arrives in Bombay, if it is found badly adulterated, the up-country Inspectors are blamed, and accused of remissness and neglect of duties which the Act does not give them the power of performing. Under the present Act no cotton can legally be examined by an Inspector, except it be "offered for compression," or "exposed for sale;" and it is clear that its owners may deny that it comes under either of those conditions until it arrives at Bombay, and they can, therefore, object to its being examined up-country. This state of matters quite justifies Captain Moore's remark that "if the Native dealers in the Mofussil were better acquainted with the delicate points of the law, they might legally decline to allow any of their cotton to be examined." To this I am constrained to add that I fear the "Native dealers" are beginning to acquire that knowledge, more especially those in and about Broach.

24. Messrs. Hewett and Manley, Inspectors for Surat and Sholapore, dwell equally strongly upon the necessity of putting a stop to the admixture of old and new cotton. Mr. Hewett brings to notice the comparative impunity enjoyed by the Press-owner, from the fact that in sections IX. and XI. the licensee only is made the responsible party, whereas, as Mr. Hewett points out, at present owners start a Press in any but their own name; and if the party employed infringes the law, the former (that is the Press-owner) escapes, and, moreover, takes another license in another name," the inference being that the Press should be made liable, so as to deprive the owner of the power of immediately re-opening it under a new name; in other words, the penalty incurred should involve the closing of the Press for a time.

25. The other Inspectors complain in like manner of the defects mentioned, and also point out minor ones, which, though of less importance, still have the effect of unnecessarily crippling their powers and impairing their efficiency in the performance of their duties.

26. It is not, however, with the view of influencing the course of legislation that I have alluded to these representations, because I am fully aware that the whole merits of this important question have already received the careful consideration of His Excellency the Governor in Council; but failures in the operation of the Act have not unfrequently been made the subject of public comment and criticism, and they have, in many cases, been too readily ascribed by those engaged in the trade to remissness on the part of the Officers employed to carry out the provisions of the Act. I, therefore, think it but fair that the difficulties the Inspectors have had to contend with, owing to the insufficiency of the powers conferred upon them by law, should be noticed here in the terms in which they have been described by themselves when they were called upon to report on the subject.

27. Having, in previous communications, submitted my opinions with regard to the alterations and amendments which will require consideration when the provisions of the present "Cotton Frauds' Act" are being reframed, it is not necessary again to recur to them here; but there is one measure which I would beg to be allowed this opportunity of noticing, with the view of obtaining consideration for it, as it appears to have been overlooked in the amendments hitherto proposed and published, namely, the expediency of providing by law for the establishment of public cotton yards, or markets, at all important up-country stations. At present any proposal for the establishment of such yards, or markets, has generally either to come through Municipalities, or has to be submitted for their consideration and approval; and I find from experience that, unless it can be shown that they will be made highly profitable to the Municipal coffers, it is often difficult to obtain any consideration or support for such proposals. Moreover, it not unfrequently happens that some of the Native members of these Municipalities are themselves engaged in cotton dealing, and are, from community of interests, leagued with that particular class of Native middlemen and brokers, from whose trammels and exactions the establishment of these public markets would very materially operate in releasing the trade, and who are, therefore, bitterly opposed to any such innovation.

28. I may instance Sholapore as a case in point, where the influences I have just alluded to are at present actively at work in endeavours to thwart the success of the new cotton market which is just now being opened there, and to maintain the old system of "hues," the disadvantages and evils of which (in as far as Sholapore

is concerned) were so clearly exposed by Mr. Jervoise, the Acting Collector, in the correspondence submitted by me to Government on the 10th December last, and upon which sanction was given to the outlay necessary for the establishment of the new market.

29. I consider that all measures which will aid in bringing the buyer (more especially the European Agent) into immediate contact with the cultivator are deserving of the first and earliest attention, as they will prove, above all others, most conducive to the establishment of a healthy condition of our cotton trade. The extent to which it is at present at the mercy of intermediate Native brokers, and the evils of exaction, adulteration, &c., which arise therefrom, are too well known to require description; and it must also be admitted that we are somewhat behind our neighbours in the march of improvement towards providing against them.

30. Five years ago, when on a tour of cotton inspection in the Central Provinces, I brought prominently to the notice of the then Government the advantage that would accrue from the establishment of well-regulated cotton marts, and the matter having, in consequence, been vigorously taken up, the country is now well supplied with them.

31. The benefit which that single movement has conferred upon the cotton trade is ably described by the Cotton Commissioner, Mr. Rivett-Carnac, in his Administration Report recently published. The very glowing description of the success attending the establishment of the cotton market at Khamgaum illustrates the benefit which the European merchant may derive from being brought into direct contact with the grower, and the no less important advantages accruing to the latter from the same cause.

32. On a smaller scale I may instance the success which has attended the new Julgaum market in Khandeish, as evinced by the ready manner in which it was at once resorted to and appreciated by the cultivators. Mr. Wilkinson, the Cotton Inspector, in one of his reports describes it as follows:—

> "The establishment of the market is viewed with the greatest satisfaction by the cotton owners in the district, ryots, &c., who see that they have now the opportunity of escaping the unjust extortions practised on them when selling their cotton. At present, by using our scales, they sell their cotton at its true weight, and eventually, when this scheme is more firmly established, they will doubtless break through the custom, which now obtains among buyers, of excessive taxation on each doera. The market is now so much resorted to that one scale is found insufficient for its requirements. I have, therefore, the honour to request to be supplied with at least two more," &c.

33. I believe that much more would be heard from our cotton buyers (more especially the European portion of them) with regard

to the expediency of establishing open markets to free the trade from the incubus of middlemen and their nefarious doings, were it not for the hold and monopoly of the produce, which the latter, in the absence of markets, are now able to maintain, and by which the buyers are placed so far at their mercy that they cannot but feel that any displeasing agitation might be inconveniently resented when cotton contracts required fulfilment.

34. Nowhere is this state of matters more apparent than at Broach, notwithstanding its vicinity to Bombay; and I have good reason to believe that both the cotton buyer and the cultivator would hail with delight the establishment of an open market where their dealings could be conducted without the intervention of a third party.

35. When recently in Goozerat, I met the Broach cotton buyers by invitation, and the question of a public market was then fully discussed. With but one dissentient voice, they were unanimously of opinion that the establishment of an open market was not only much wanted, but that it was a measure which, above all others, would tend to protect the cotton produce of Broach from a repetition of the adulterations practised upon it, which have gained for it this season such a notoriously bad name amongst the Bombay merchants. It was then settled that another meeting should be called, and the Native Soucars and dealers invited to attend for the purpose of preparing a petition to Government, praying for the establishment of a public cotton mart contiguous to the railway station; but I have since learnt that local Native influences were strong enough to put a stop to the movement, and I should now be glad to see it taken up by the Chamber of Commerce, as I believe it would be strongly supported in Bombay.

36. At present in its cotton trade Broach resembles a close borough of the olden time, into the precincts of which only a chosen few can find entrance, and against these an outside buyer from Bombay stands no chance. I have heard of instances of such buyers being there for days unable to purchase a bale of cotton, though there was at the time no scarcity of the article in the place; and I believe that this monopoly is a very powerful auxiliary to the cotton adulteration for which Broach has of late become so famous, and which the establishment of an open market would very materially aid the Cotton Department in suppressing.

37. A clause in the amended Bill making lawful the establishment of cotton markets at up-country stations would confer upon them a stamp of authority which would inspire confidence, and help to remove many of the difficulties which at present stand in the way of getting them established. It might not be found necessary to make resort to the market compulsory. Julgaum is an instance of the readiness with which at least one class will avail themselves

of a market-place if they find every convenience provided for them, such as shed accommodation, police protection, and means of having their cotton fairly weighed.

38. That the control and management should be vested in the Cotton Department, however, has been made apparent from the malpractices which have lately been brought to light in connection with the management of the once famous model market of Khamgaum, and which have given rise to such serious complaints on the part of the European purchasers who have resorted thither this season. The matter, as I have been informed, was made the subject of official inquiry, and it was found that, by means of collusion between the Native dealers and the Police, the ryots were cheated at the scales, and the result was that the Native dealers were thus enabled to gain the monopoly of the market.

39. Such abuses as have just been described would appear to indicate the necessity of employing officers on the special duty of superintending cotton markets, and in that case it would be necessary that the Act should provide for their appointment.

40. Appendices F to O are the Inspectors' Reports for the past year. Some of these Officers have forwarded tabulated Statements describing the extent of cultivation in their districts, the number of convictions under the Cotton Frauds' Act, &c. These Statements I have thought it unnecessary to submit, the information they contain being embodied in the general return prepared in this Office, and which will be found attached to this Report. The matters treated of in the reports of the Inspectors come under two general heads, namely, those immediately connected with the administration of the Cotton Frauds' Act, and those having reference to cotton cultivation and improvement. With regard to the former, I deem it unnecessary to do more than briefly to refer to a few of the more important points. I shall afterwards have to enter somewhat fully into the wider subjects comprehended in the latter heading.

41. *Bombay.*—The reports of the three Inspectors in Bombay, Messrs. Harrison, Turner, and Merritt, are necessarily devoted entirely to an account of their proceedings at the Cotton Presses. It will be seen that they all represent the difficulties they have met with in consequence of the extreme inefficiency of the statute to which they owe their powers. The case quoted by the Senior Inspector in paragraphs 16 and 17 of his report is a fair illustration of the perfect ease with which adulteration in its grossest form can now be practised with impunity.

42. With reference to the difficulty which Mr. Turner points out as arising from the fact that certain Presses are in the habit of working upon Sundays, and at inconveniently early and late hours on other days, I may state that, owing to a former representation

received from Mr. Turner, this matter was brought to the notice of Government in my letter No. 82, of 11th April last, with the view of its being provided for by special rules, which section V. of the Act empowers the Government to pass in connection with Press Licenses; and, in conformity with instructions since received, I am now collecting information, which will enable me shortly to submit a draft of such rules for the consideration and approval of Government.

43. *Ahmedabad and Kaira.*—From Captain Moore's report (marked I) it would appear that full pressing of cotton in his districts is gaining favour, there having been an increase last year of nearly 12,000 bales over the number pressed in the preceding year, which amounted to 109,272.

44. In paragraph 12 of his report Captain Moore notices the relative extent to which the Bombay merchant and his up-country agent are interested in obtaining efficient legislation for the protection of the trade; and he points out that in cases of fraud the Bombay merchant is usually by no means the greatest sufferer, as he reserves the right of refusing cotton after its arrival in Bombay if it should turn out to be not exactly according to sample; whereas the Agent, having in that case no one to fall back upon, is obliged to dispose of the cotton as he best can.

45. Captain Moore has embodied in his report (paragraph 11) extract of a letter from Mr. Whittle, of Veerumgaum, a gentleman engaged in the cotton trade; who, from his long residence in that part of the country, has become intimately acquainted with the customs of the ryots and local cotton dealers. Mr. Whittle advocates the necessity of legislation on behalf of the cotton trade taking such a form as would meet the peculiar exigencies of certain localities, as well as that it should be applicable to the general wants of the country. In explanation of his meaning he instances the case of his own districts, where the usual and traditional method of preparing cotton for the market is different from that adopted in any other part of India. He shows, at the same time, that this peculiar method is a good one if it were duly attended to; that it is owing to its being neglected that the cotton of that district reaches the market in a very impure state; and that what is, therefore, required in that peculiar case is that the proper observance of the method in question should be enforced by law.

46. *Surat and Broach.*—The Inspector, Mr. Hewett, (Appendix J) alludes to the complaints that have been general this season in Bombay regarding the adulterated state in which the cotton from his districts has been reaching the Presidency, and in effect he pleads inability to contend with the evil in the present state of the law. Amongst other representations, I received one from Messrs. Nicol and Co., stating that Broach cotton this season has been, to use their own words, "most systematically adulterated by mixing

seed and sand with the cotton, and in many cases water has been used at the up-country Presses with the object of making the cotton weigh, thereby rendering the staple perfectly rotten." On receipt of Messrs. Nicol and Co.'s communication, I called upon the Inspectors in Bombay, and also upon Mr. Hewett, to relate their experiences with regard to the condition of Broach cotton this season, and to report upon the causes which may have led to its adulteration.

47. Mr. Harrison, Senior Inspector, reports that his experience this season fully confirms the statement of Messrs. Nicol and Co. that most part of the cotton from Broach has been received at Bombay in an adulterated state. In accounting for the same, Mr. Harrison expresses his belief that much of the adulteration must have been effected in the villages in whose limits the cotton was grown; as the cultivators have this season had an unusual inducement to increase the weight of their cotton by fraudulent means, owing to the rise in price which took place after they had sold their crops in the field, and to the fact that the purchasers of the growing crop still have a large margin of profit, had no objection to the quantity being increased without caring how, as the larger the quantity of cotton he received so much the greater would be his gains; thus making it apparent that both parties would share in the profits of the adulteration.

48. Mr. Turner reports in the present year's imports of new Broach cotton he has noticed that one-third of the quantity which came under his inspection was "false packed," and that many bales were found "saturated" with water in the centre. Mr. Turner is unable to account for the increase in adulteration this season, except on the supposition that the Natives are finding out the defects in the Act, and that they consequently do not fear detection.

49. Mr. Hewett, whilst to a certain extent admitting the case to be as represented by Messrs. Nicol and Co., attributes this unsatisfactory state of matters to the same cause pointed out by Mr. Turner; adding that "the moral good effect of the present Act when first brought out in the districts has completely died out." At the same time Mr. Hewett maintains that much of the cotton which is passed off in Bombay as the produce of the Broach districts, and in which adulteration has been noticed, is not actually Broach cotton, but comes from Baroda and other quarters.

50. *Khandeish.*—The Cotton Inspector of this district, Mr. Wilkinson, (Appendix **K**) brings to notice the extent to which the mixing of good and damaged cotton has taken place in Khandeish this season, which was due, as he states, to a large proportion of the crop having been injured by rain having fallen towards the end of the picking season. He represents that both the damaged and good cotton were brought to be ginned together, and regrets that the law does not provide against the practice of so mixing good and bad

cotton of the same variety, and of the same season's growth. Mr. Wilkinson, at the same time, brings forward a case in illustration of what appears to be a more serious evil, namely, the adulteration of new and good cotton by mixing with it old and inferior of a former year's growth. The facts mentioned exemplify the extreme length to which this practice is carried, and the present impossibility of putting a stop to it. In the case in question it appears that the cotton used for adulteration was so bad, that the Magistrate regarded it as "foreign matter," and decided against the accused. On appeal, however, the Judge refused to confirm the Magistrate's decision, holding that cotton, however worthless, must be cotton, and could not be called "foreign matter," and that the law as it stands does not prohibit the mixing of old cotton and new.

51. *Sholapore, Sattara, Ahmednuggur, and Poona.*—The Inspector of these districts refers (Appendix **L**) to the existence of many forms of adulteration in them. Mr. Manley states that "clear cases can frequently be only met by remonstrance and reproof," and he proceeds thus:—

> "As the Act now stands I have no hesitation in saying that the position of an inspecting Officer as regards frauds in cotton is, in the presence of many forms of fraud, painfully depressing, for his inability to check it is manifest."

52. It is satisfactory to have to record that Cotton Presses are finding their way into these districts, and that their advantages are beginning to be recognized by the local cotton dealers. In addition to the full presses previously at work at Sholapore, two have been erected in the past year at the important station of Barsee. Mr. Manley states his impression that the cotton trade of Sholapore will be very materially affected by the extension of the line of railway to Goolburga, and he estimates that a large proportion of the cotton now finding its way to the former station will ultimately be diverted to Carwar when the railway to that sea port shall have been completed.

53. *Canara* and *Rutnagherry.*—(Appendix **M**). The most important event of the past year, as reported by the Inspector of these districts, is the opening at Carwar of a direct export trade with Europe. It will be seen from the statement submitted by Mr. Stranack that no less than nine ships freighted with cotton have left that port for England since March 1868, and that the quantity of cotton conveyed by them amounted to nearly 30,000 bales. I may add that since the date of Mr. Stranack's report two other ships have arrived at Carwar, the "Mahableshwur" and the "Alice," both of which will sail in a few days for England laden with cotton. With regard to the condition of the staple sent forward from Coompta this season, Mr. Stranack states that it "shows a vast improvement over that of last year, particularly the saw-ginned

Dharwar, which has given great satisfaction in this market." He complains, however, of the condition of the native cotton, owing to the large quantity of seed fraudulently mixed with it, and despairs of ever seeing this description of cotton reach the market in a merchantable condition until the adulteration of cotton with seed is entirely forbidden.

54. *Sind.*—The cotton of this province during the past year, the Inspector reports (Appendix N) to have been pronounced "excellent both as regards cleanliness and improvement in staple; in fact, the best yet of its kind;" and he adds that "it has been thought that had a quantity of it been shipped from Bombay to England without any disclosure as to it place of growth, it would have fetched the same price as Dhollera, to which the quotations for Sind cotton have in 1868 very closely approximated. From the table subjoined to paragraph 5 of Mr. Hughes' report it will be observed that, as compared with the previous two years, there has been a very large diminution in the number of bales full pressed in 1868 at Kurrachee, which is the only station in Sind where Presses are employed. The Inspector states that this falling off is mainly due to the non-receipt at Kurrachee of the usual quantity of Punjaub cotton, which again he attributes to the great facility with which cotton is carried by the East India Railway from North Punjaub to Calcutta as compared with the delay and trouble attending its conveyance in boats along the Indus to Kurrachee. Mr. Hughes notices also the falling off in the quantity of unpressed Sind cotton exported to Bombay in the past year, but this fact is alluded to as of a gratifying nature, as showing that the practice which prevailed some years ago of using cotton for mixing with superior kinds at Bombay is visibly declining. I notice that my predecessor in his Annual Report for 1867 viewed in the same light the decrease in the exports of Sind cotton to Bombay in that year.

55. *His Highness the Hubshee's Territory.*—Appendix O is the report of the Inspector employed in preventing robberies of cotton on the coast of this territory. Mr. Boorhanooden states that, to his knowledge, no case of robbery occurred in the past year, a result which, considering how rife the practice was some years since, appears to be satisfactory. This I believe to be due, in great measure, to the activity and energy of Mr. Boorhanoodeen, who very properly directed a large share of his attention and vigilance to those points along the coast where, from the frequent communications held between the crews of cotton boats and the villagers, he had most cause to suspect that robberies were likely to be committed. It is gratifying also to observe from the Inspector's report that the servants of His Highness the Hubshee have co-operated with him in putting a stop to the malpractices referred to.

56. I am obliged to defer placing before Government the results of the proceedings of the Preventive Sub-Inspector for the Ner-

budda and Taptee rivers, Mr. Hewett, under whom the Sub-Inspector is employed, not having yet furnished the usual return.

57. This is a branch of the Department which, in my opinion, is very important, and requires thorough reorganization, and I purpose submitting to Government, when the proper time arrives, the changes therein which I consider necessary. I may here also observe, with regard to the representations made by the several Inspectors on the subject of increasing the number of Peons and raising the salaries of Subordinates in the Department, that I have also several proposals of my own to submit on this subject; but as the requirements of the Department may be very considerably modified by the contemplated changes, such proposals would as yet be premature.

58. All that I would solicit at present is that His Excellency in Council will favourably consider the recommendations made in the reports of Captain Moore and Mr. Manley, that Government would confer on Mr. Moteeram Himmutram, Mamlutdar of Veerumgaum, and on the Mamlutdar of Marheh, respectively, some reward in recognition of the services rendered by them in connection with the improvement of cotton in their districts. I can add my own testimony to the zeal and interest displayed by Mr. Moteeram, having myself had occasion to engage his services; and I have also reason to know that the Mamlutdar of Marheh exerted himself in a most praiseworthy manner to ensure the success of the cotton experiments at that station. As a recognition of this kind would naturally be more prized by the recipients if it reached them through the head of their own Department, I would beg to suggest that a sum of Rs. 100 be placed at the disposal of each of the Collectors (Ahmedabad and Sholapore) for the purchase of a shawl or turban for presentation to them.

59. *Cultivation.*—The extent of land under cotton cultivation, and also the estimated yield of crop, are shown in the Appendix P. Table I. is a separate detailed statement of cultivation in the Northern Division of the Presidency, prepared from the Collectors' return sand contrasting results with those of the preceding season.

60. I have retained the distinction of *exotic* and *indigenous* as applied to the description of cultivation, only because it has been adopted, or rather continued, in the Collectors' returns, but it should be understood that the distinction is nominal, not real, there being no exotic cultivation in the Northern Division, with the small exception of that carried on experimentally. Indigenous or Native seed, transferred from one district to another cannot be classed as exotic cultivation, a term which should be reserved to distinguish the introduction of seed imported from foreign countries.

61. Table II. is a similar return for the Southern Division, in which there is a large extent of exotic cotton cultivation in the pro-

per sense of the term. No. III. is a similar return for Sind and for Native States, and No. IV. a general return for the whole Presidency, including Sind, and showing the total area of land under cultivation, with the estimated out-turn of the present season's crop as compared with that of last year.

62. The net results of the figures in this last return exhibit a total decrease in the area of land under cotton cultivation (as compared with the preceding year) amounting in the aggregate to 15,459 acres; at the same time they show an estimated decrease in the total of the anticipated amount of produce to the extent of 39,077 candies, or 78,154 Bombay bales (of 392 lbs. each), a deficiency much out of proportion to the difference in the area of cultivation.

63. Whilst, however, the general statement exhibts a net decrease in the total area under cultivation, it will be seen, on examination of the separate returns of each Division, that the fluctuations between them have been very material. In the Northern Division, for instance, the deficiency, as compared with last season, amounts to the large figure of 110,708 acres, which, however, is covered and surpassed by an increase in the Southern Division amounting to 125,091 acres. At the same time, both Divisions contribute their quota to the estimated deficiency in the anticipated return of produce. This in the Northern Division amounts to 34,023 candies, or 68,046 bales, whilst in the Southern Division the total deficit is estimated at not more than 694 candies or 1,388 bales.

64. The *Northern Division* contains four Collectorates, three of which rank amongst our most important cotton growing districts—namely, Surat, Ahmedabad, and Khandeish. In the former of these *Surat*, which includes the Sub-Collectorate of Broach, the Collector's returns show the very large deficit of 36,603 acres in the extent of cotton cultivation, as contrasted with that of the preceding year. Of this, it appears that only 4,634 acres are due to Surat, and the remaining 31,969 acres to the Broach portion of the Collectorate.

65. The Collector's reports do not offer any explanation of the cause of the above-noticed deficiency, which, however, probably only indicates a return to former limits, as the season anterior to this one was distinguished by an increase of upwards of 40,000 acres over its immediate predecessor.

66. The anticipated deficiency in this season's yield of cotton in the Surat Collectorate, as contrasted with that of last year, is stated at 12,696 candies, or 25,392 bales, of which, in proportion to the area, the deficiency is greatest in Broach, as the Collector of Surat reported so late as the 5th of February in favourable terms regarding his portion of the Collectorate.

67. In the Talook of *Broach* itself the crop was good, but in other Talookas of that Sub-Collectorate, more especially along the sea coast villages of the Jumbooseer, Ahmode, and Wagra Talooks cotton suffered greatly from want of the late rains, and the return expected from them does not exceed half an ordinary crop.

68. In the *Ahmedabad* Collectorate the returns exhibit the extensive falling off of 48,773 acres in the area under cotton cultivation as contrasted with the preceding season of 1867-68; and I find on referring to former returns, that the last named season was also short of its predecessor to the extent of 29,360 acres. I am at a loss to account for this continuous yearly decrease, which indicates that cotton cultivation is getting into disfavour in that quarter, and the very unfavourable returns expected from the present season's crop will no doubt help to add to that feeling, for they amount to but the poor yield of 22 pounds of clean cotton per acre.

69. This failure in amount of produce from this Collectorate (which might have been otherwise realized) is duly accounted for by the unfavourable vicissitudes of the season, which was marked by a scarcity of rain-fall at its earlier periods, subsequently followed by unprecedented floods, which submerged whole tracts of country, and in many places washed away both soil and crops.

70. In the *Khandeish* Collectorate the extent of land cultivated with cotton is less than that of the preceding season by 25,283 acres, but here also, on referring to former returns, I observe that the season of 1867-68 shows an increase of cotton cultivation, amounting to 14,000 acres, over its predecessor; and it is possible that these fluctuations may be due partly to the alternate distribution of land between grain and cotton in the yearly rotation of crops.

71. The estimated deficiency of the cotton crop in this Collectorate, as contrasted with that of the preceding year, amounts to 19,567 candies, or 39,134 bales. In accounting for this falling off, the Acting Collector reports the season as having been one of the most unfavourable known in Khandeish for many years, not only as regards the quantity of the cotton crop, which it was concluded would be less by one-half than that of the previous season, but also as regards quality, which proved to be comparatively very inferior; and these untoward results were shown to be solely attributable to an almost entire want of seasonable moisture.

72. The *Southern Division* of this Presidency comprises seven Collectorates, three of which are highly important as regards their contributions to the cotton supply, namely, Dharwar, Kulladghee, and Belgaum, the average aggregate returns from the two former alone being usually equal to that of the whole Northern Division.

73. In the *Dharwar* Collectorate, including the small Native Jagheers within its limits, the area of land under cotton cultivation

considerably exceeds that of any other district in the Bombay Presidency, and, besides contributing largely to the supply of the indigenous cotton known in the Home market as "Coompta," it is famous as being the only region in India into which foreign cotton has been extensively introduced, and in which it may be said to be permanently naturalized.

74. In the early part of the season now under report, the prospects of these Southern Districts were so highly promising that it was expected their returns would materially help to make up the deficiency anticipated from other quarters, so as to maintain our exports at about their usual average, but the results of cotton cultivation are uncertain and precarious, and the ryots were doomed to disappointment after having arrived at a stage at which they might fairly have considered a rich harvest as almost within their grasp.

75. The cotton season in the Dharwar district is later than that of any other part of the Presidency, the seed not being usually sown until the latter part of August; and in a favourable season the first picking is usually gathered about the end of January. This latter remark applies only to the exotic or American variety; the indigenous, though sown at the same time, does not ripen until a fortnight later.

76. The season now closed was a late one: the first sowing took place upon the 28th of August, and the others were continued up to the 15th of September. A plentiful fall of rain towards the end of that month gave a great impetus to the young plants, so that during the three following months they continued to maintain a strong and promising appearance, which gave rise to anticipations of a better crop than any that had been realized for many years. Unfortunately, however, in the beginning of January, dry, searching, easterly winds set in, the pernicious effects of which are well known and dreaded by the cultivators; and, as early as the 4th of that month, their first bad effects began to appear in the shape of a species of blight, which very soon became general, and within a fortnight from that date it was plainly seen that at least a fourth of the crop would be lost, a result which has been but too surely realized.

77. In past years I have had several opportunities of noticing similar occurrences in the Dharwar districts, though latterly they have become less frequent; and, from having carefully watched the cause and effects of the disease, I consider it to be entirely due to climatic influence. Its effects upon the plants, or rather its mode of attacking them, is not uniform. In some localities the part first affected is the bark of the upper portion of the stem and branches, through which the sap of the plant appears to ooze away; in others, the leaves seem to be the first parts to suffer; they become discoloured and shrivelled as if frost-bitten; the plants then wither, and both the flowers and young bolls drop away from them.

78. Early in February the direction of the winds shifted, dews fell, the atmosphere became moist, and the effect was that the blight ceased extending, and those plants that had not been quite destroyed revived considerably, and ultimately yielded some crop, though of impaired quality.

79. As nearly as the damage can now be estimated, it is considered that the total average loss from the above cause amounted to not less than thirty-five per cent. of the whole crop.

80. It is remarkable, however, that the native or indigenous cotton of the country suffered most; and, as regards the exotic variety, the plants from the old acclimatized seed resisted the influence of the blight much better, both as regards the quantity and the quality of their produce, than those obtained from new seed of the same description which had been imported for the season's sowing.

81. The Collectorates of *Belgaum* and *Kulladghee* are contiguous to that of Dharwar; they suffered similarly; and the same remarks apply to them, except that the deficiency of their produce was more marked, owing to their cultivation being chiefly of the indigenous or native variety. An idea may be formed of the loss sustained in the Kulladghee Collectorate from the fact that, though the area of land under cotton cultivation exceeded that of the preceding year by 104,266 acres, the anticipated returns are less by 3,593 candies, or 7,186 Bombay bales.

82. The other Collectorates of this Division, viz., *Ahmednuggur, Poona, Sholapore,* and *Sattara,* are less important as cotton producing districts, the aggregate return from the whole not being more than a fourth part of that of the Dharwar Collectorate alone. They did not suffer from the blight above described, but, though they extend over a large tract of country, the season has been almost equally unfavourable in all of them, owing to drought and the failure of the usual rain-fall as the season advanced. The returns relating to them also show a falling off in the area of land devoted to cotton cultivation this season.

83. The largest decrease is represented in the Ahmednuggur Zilla, where it amounts to 10,132 acres. Next in proportion is Poona, 9,330 acres. In Sholapore there has been a small decrease of 2,960; whilst the neighbouring Collectorate of Sattara shows an increase of 9,733 acres over the cultivation of last year.

84. I have above mentioned that in the Southern Division of the Presidency there is a large extent of actual exotic cotton cultivation, consisting of the American or New Orleans variety, which has been thoroughly acclimatized for many years back. The extent of land throughout this Division now occupied by this exotic description amounts to 331,151 acres, and that by native or indigenous cotton to 840,676 acres.

85. During the season now under report, as compared with last year, there has been an increase of American cotton cultivation, amounting in the Dharwar Collectorate alone to 16,911 acres. From this, its early centre, it is gradually extending into the adjoining native provinces of Raichore and Mysore. These, however, being foreign states, I have no means of ascertaining the actual extent to which this exotic cultivation has atttained in them, but as it is in high favour with the cultivators, and both soil and climate are suitable to it, there is no doubt that it would be very largely extended if the Governments of those countries would supply their districts with the means of maintaining and repairing the peculiar description of machinery required for cleaning it, by the establishment of branch factories similar to those in Dharwar.

86. In *Sind* the returns received indicate that a tolerably favourable season has been experienced. There has been an increase in the area of cotton cultivation amounting to a little over 1,300 acres, the extent cultivated last year having been 56,330 acres, while that under cultivation this year is 57,684. The largest cotton producing Collectorate in the province is Hydrabad, from which the return this year is estimated at 4,734 candies, or 9,468 bales of clean cotton, whilst the estimated produce of the whole of Sind, including its frontiers, is but 7,352 candies, or 14,704 bales.

87. Of the *Native States* from which returns can be obtained, the most important with regard to the extent of cotton cultivation is Kolapore, including as it does a considerable number of small Jagheers. There has been a considerable falling off in the extent of land cultivated this season, as compared with that of the preceding year, the former having been 153,607 acres against 123,349 in the present year, but the proportionate deficiency in the crop is still greater, being as follows—

1867-68..... 7,927 candies = 15,854 bales.
1868-69..... 5,388 candies = 10,776 bales.

This deficiency the Political Agent accounts for by stating that the crop has generally suffered much from want of rain during the latter end of the season, there having been no rain at all in the month of October, a period when in that part of the country rain usually falls, and is much required.

88. The only other Native States of which I possess returns are the "Rewa Kanta" and the "Mahee Kanta." The total extent of land devoted to cotton in these two States has been less in the present season than in the past, and the expected yield is still less in proportion. The figures are as follows:—

	Area under cultivation.	Yield.
1867-68.....	10,157 acres....	1,415 candies, or 2,830 bales.
1868-69.....	9,219 acres....	1,051 candies, or 2,102 bales.

The deficiency here also is attributed to the unfavourable nature of the season.

89. In the early part of this season great doubts were entertained with regard to the prospects of our cotton crop, which it was feared would prove so short as to be almost a complete failure. The actual out-turn will not, as I have above mentioned, be accurately ascertained before the close of the year, as there is still a considerable quantity of the crop in the interior; but I think there is now good reason to expect that it will be considerably in excess of the estimate formed for the different Collectorates, as shown in the annexed Table.

90. Before closing this notice of the season's cultivation, I may with some satisfaction draw attention to the improvement which has taken place in the Dharwar saw-ginned cotton of this season as evidenced by the position with it now occupies at the top of the market. The manner in which this valuable staple had for some time previously been steadily losing its character in the trade was becoming a subject of marked public attention, and it was at length specially brought to the notice of Government by a mercantile firm at the end of 1867.

91. Having then just returned from an absence of two years on sick leave in England, I was directed by Government to proceed at once to the Dharwar districts to inquire into the cause of these complaints, and I subsequently reported upon the subject, at the same time organizing measures for remedying the evil which I found had been the most prominent cause of the mischief, namely, the neglected and injured condition into which the cleaning machinery of the districts had been allowed to pass during my absence.

92. Ever since that time the establishments of the Factory have been kept actively employed upon the work, and the results I then ventured to promise and predict are now being fully realized. That they are due to the efforts which have been unceasingly persevered in for restoring the gins to their proper working condition, and not to other causes, is evidenced by the difference in market value this season between the "saw-ginned" and the "native" cotton of the district, as compared with their relative prices last year. At this time last year the "saw-ginned" was only 8 Rupees per candy in advance of "Coompta" cotton, whereas it is now higher by upwards of 40 Rupees.

93. I notice the matter thus prominently, because it confirms the opinion so strongly expressed by His Excellency the Governor in Council in Government Resolution No. 3508 A, of 14th September last, with regard to the expediency of the Dharwar Factory being supported by the State, and restored to its former condition of efficiency.

94. I have not yet been able to submit the details of the system of management which it will be necessary to introduce, and which were called for in the above mentioned Resolution, as I find that, before doing so, it will be necessary that I should again visit the

Dharwar districts. This I purpose doing as early as the season will permit, and I confidently trust that I shall then be able to recommend the adoption of measures which will meet with the approval of Government, and which will effectually guard against a future recurrence of the inefficiency which gave rise to the complaints above referred to.

95. *Experiments.*—All the experiments of last season were projected upon the principles laid down by His Excellency Sir Seymour Fitz Gerald in a comprehensive minute on cotton improvement dated 10th January 1868, addressed to my predecessor Mr. Bulkley, and which will be found annexed to this report (marked **Aa**). It is much to be regretted that, in almost all quarters, success has been completely marred by the untoward vicissitudes of an unusually unfavourable season; because both the theory and principles enunciated in His Excellency's minute differ materially from commonly entertained ideas on this subject, which have hitherto been rather indiscriminately advocated and followed, in too many instances more to the prejudice than to the advantage of the interests at stake.

96. In substance the ideas I allude to are based upon the crude and unreasonable notion that because a particular variety of the cotton plant yields highly lucrative returns in certain regions, it must be equally suitable for every other country in which cotton will grow, and therefore, that all that is wanted for India is to have ship-loads of foreign seed poured into the country, whilst all that we have got to attend to is to insist upon its being sown.

97. The Indian ryot, like the English farmer, has his rent to pay and his living to make out of his land, and to continue forcing upon him the adoption of seed from which he gets no adequate return can only have the effect of driving him to abandon cotton in favour of other cultivation in the pursuit of which he is left unmolested, especially if he finds the difference of profit not very material; and it may, probably, be a question how much this has had to do with the very perceptible falling off in the area of cotton cultivation in some localities, which the returns herewith published make manifest, and which it is otherwise difficult to account for.

98. It has now been determined—and I think most justly—that what has to be done by way of commencement towards improving the quality of our Indian staple must be undertaken directly by Government. If the hoped for results, which we have yet to ascertain, can in due time be fully realized and established, the cultivator will of his own accord seek to participate in them, and there will then be no difficulty met with in extending their benefits to the country at large.

99. Notwithstanding the disasters above described, some useful information has been gained from this last season's operations, which I may now notice conjointly with results of former experience.

100. First, as regards the *American* or *New Orleans* plants.—From certain peculiarities pertaining to it, which are closely allied to the habits of the Native or indigenous variety of this country, it is, above all others, the one description of foreign seed which would be most likely to find favour with our cultivators. In Dharwar, where it is firmly established, we see that the same sowing season suits it, that it is equally conformable to the traditional mode of cultivation of the country, and that it has one very important similarity to the native plant, namely, that the same number of periodical pickings suffice for gathering its crop. Coupling these advantages with the ascertained fact that the plant itself would grow well in most of our cotton districts, though widely apart, I at one time entertained sanguine hopes of seeing it extensively resorted to, and did not hesitate to recommend its being tried. We have now the results of many experiments to refer to. In Berar, some years ago, I took under my own guidance one, which completely established what was supposed to be the only information required, namely, the suitability of the soil and climate for the growth of the plant. In as far as appearances went, nothing could be more successful. The plants flourished well, and I obtained the comparatively profitable yield of 119 lbs. of clean cotton per acre. In Khandeish, Collectors' reports have mentioned a still larger yield, but unfortunately it proved that the fibre, though of good colour and fair appearance, was week and faulty in texture to an extent that made it, in a comparative sense, almost worthless; and though I have seen it mentioned that there have been exceptions on a small scale, my own subsequent experience, where I have had the opportunities on the spot of examining the results of experiments, only permits me to say that nowhere yet have I seen fibre produced at all equal to that of Dharwar, or even sufficiently good to encourage the introduction of this description of seed into other parts.

101. The means of remedying this defect may, however, yet be discovered through the agency that we now have at our disposal. Hitherto, notwithstanding all that has been written about Indian cotton improvement, it must be owned that we are yet but on the threshold of our experience, and have still almost every thing to learn with regard to the important question of what it is possible to do by bringing a thorough, practical knowledge of horticulture to the study of the peculiarities of the plant. It is only now for the first time that this is being brought to bear upon the subject; and the careful selection made by the Home Government of the practical men sent out for the purpose may be accepted as a guarantee that the work will be well performed.

102. A perusal of Captain Moore's report will show the extent to which the Ahmedabad districts have suffered from the flood experienced. I found scarcely a remnant of the experiments left; nevertheless, I saw sufficient to satisfy me that the expectations previously entertained of localizing the *Egyptian* plant in the Veerumgaum districts are not without good foundation.

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103. The introduction of this variety has for years back been freely attempted in many other quarters, with but little success; and the failure, as far as my personal observation has gone, has consisted in the poor and valueless quality of the produce in the rare cases where such has been obtained in any quantity.

104. In Dharwar the seed was tried years ago; the plant throve uncommonly well, better apparently than either of its neighbours, viz., the American and Native varieties; it flowered well, and bolls formed in great abundance: up to that point nothing could be more promising, but then the powers of the plant seemed to fail. A very small proportion only of the bolls got the length of opening, and in them the fibre was found to be very poor and wasty: the remainder, after arriving almost at the ripening point, changed colour, became shrivelled, and gradually dropped off. I repeated the experiments several seasons in succession with invariably the same results, and the conclusion arrived at was that owing to the soil being too rich for the plant, it exhausted itself in running to wood, and was unequal to the final effort of ripening its produce.

105. At Veerumgaum the case was different. The plants were less in stature and bulk than those of Dharwar, yet healthy and vigorous; and though the bolls were less numerous, still they ripened to perfection, their staple maintaining a quality that has been pronounced excellent.

106. This discovery, as well as what has hitherto been done, is due entirely to Mr. Whittle's enterprise. As yet the natives are merely lookers-on. Their objection to the plant is (a point already noticed) that it is troublesome, owing to the number of pickings required to collect the produce. The matter is now taken up by Mr. Milne, under Captain Moore's guidance. It will be steadily and vigorously pursued, and, if next season proves favourable, I hope that information, which is yet wanting, will be obtained, which, if satisfactory, will leave no doubt about the practicability of establishing the cultivation of Egyptian cotton in that quarter.

107. This season's experiments have brought to light the prospect of introducing another variety of foreign cotton, the most valuable of all as regards its market price, viz., "*Sea Island.*" This, it appears, is solely due to Mr. Hewett, and he deserves credit for his discrimination in selecting the locality. Mr. Hewett in his report describes this experiment as a complete failure, and, in as far as appearances went, it certainly was so to an extent that, probably, would have discouraged any repetition, were it not that I fortunately had an opportunity of looking at the results just at the time that the only favourable point could have been discovered. In the first place, I could see that the soil was suitable, and that the backward condition of the plants was due to the season. But the most important point was the quality of the produce of a few of the

stronger plants which had been able to bring it to perfect maturity. The fibre, as regards length, strength, and firmness, possessed all the qualities which distinguish that valuable description of cotton; and the importance of this fact may be estimated from what I have above stated of the defects of the Egyptian variety, of the New Orleans elsewhere than in Dharwar, and, I may also add, the *Peruvian*, which, as far as I have yet seen, fail in bringing their produce to perfection in this country.

108. The further prosecution of this discovery as regards Sea Island cotton is now taken up by Mr. Stormont, and from his qualifications, as well as his zeal and earnest attention to his duties, I think I may promise that full justice will be done to it.

109. Mr. Hewett, seeing no hope of obtaining a return from the exotic seed, and, I imagine, with a view of recovering expenses, had recourse to the native variety, with which he was marvellously successful as regards the amount of produce obtained.

110. Referring to the question of cost, I regret being obliged to state that as yet I am unable to submit a return exhibiting the comparative financial results of each of the experiments. The chief part of the information necessary for the purpose is due from Surat, and has been applied for; but the Collector has not yet favoured me with it.

111. Part of the required information is also due from Kulladghee, and should have accompanied the Annual Report of the Inspector. Mr. Blackwell has not, however, yet submitted his report, nor any explanation as to the cause of delay. On receipt of the requisite information, I shall lose no time in submitting to Government the statement referred to.

112. *Hingunghaut* seed has been extensively tried this season, but has generally proved a failure. Only two experiments are reported, from which the returns obtained sufficed to cover the cost of cultivation,—one under the Collector of Sattara, where irrigation was resorted to, and the other in Sholapore, where the result was attributed more to the usual care bestowed upon the cultivation than to any advantages the seed possessed.

113. In the Dharwar districts, where the season proved most favourable for the trial, it failed entirely, The Cotton Inspector, Mr. Blackwell, who, besides having distributed some of it to the Ryots, also conducted an extensive experiment with it at Hoongoond, reported unfavourably both as regards the result of his own experiment and the opinion formed of the seed by the cultivators to whom he had supplied it.

114. In a report just now received from the Chamber of Commerce upon a varied assortment of samples which I submitted for their opinion, the Hingunghat is noticed as follows:—

Sample E.—Cotton grown at Hoongoond, Dharwar, from Hingunghat seed, Government experiment.	*Opinion.*—Leafy, and very wasty; a very poor specimen of cotton, such as no European firm would ship.

To show that it was not the season but the seed that was at fault I quote below the opinion of the Chamber on a sample of the native cotton of the district (Compta species) which was grown side by side with the Hingunghat cotton on the Government farm:—

Sample A.—Native cotton grown experimentally on account of Government at Hoongoond.	*Opinion.*—Coompta species; good colour and clean; fine silky staple; fair length; a very great improvement on the Hoongoond cotton procurable in Bombay.

115. I now consider it a fortunate circumstance that last season, owing to a representation made to me by the Collector of Dharwar, an extensive distribution of Hingunghat seed amongst the cultivators of that district was prevented, more especially as the same Ryots had been, a few seasons before, very severe sufferers from having had no less than seven and a half tons of bad seed thrust upon them.

116. In Sind the experiments of the season were conducted by the Cotton Inspector, Mr. Hughes, who has along with his report furnished copies of diaries detailing progress, which, however, are too lengthy, and not of sufficient interest, for insertion here. The substance of the information contained in them is that experiments were tried with Peruvian, Egyptian, Bourbon and Hingunghat seed, as also with Sind seed, plots of ground having been selected for the purpose in different localities, but the season having been unfavourable towards its close, the results here, as elsewhere, were not satisfactory.

117. The Sind experiments are now placed under Mr. Strachan, who arrived too late for last year's operations in that province, and who was, therefore, sent, along with Mr. Milne, to make his first acquaintance with cotton cultivation under Mr. Shearer at Dharwar. It is with pleasure that I feel able thus early to report favourably of Mr. Strachan. In so far as a thorough, practical and scientific knowledge of horticulture is concerned, no better selection could have been made; and his close application to the study of the cotton plant at Dharwar, with the amount of information I found he had gained from it, is, I trust, an earnest of future distinction and of success, where success may be practicable.

118. The pedigree experiments could scarcely have been started under conditions less favourable than those of last season, from causes which no foresight could have provided against or averted, and in respect to which it will be long remembered as a singularly disastrous one. But, as the term "pedigree" implies, a succession of seasons is required to test this theory; and as regards its application to plants of the cotton species, we have no experience gained elsewhere to guide us. Our own experiments will be the first to throw any light upon the subject.

119. The first decided results will be obtained from Mr. Shearer, who is devoting himself most carefully to the development of the system. It may be premature as yet to draw any decided conclusions, but I think that even now there are fair grounds for indulging a hope that benefit will be derived from this movement.

120. Mr. Shearer is now in possession of seed the result of three years' selection. The fact of his present samples not being superior to what they are he attributes to the untoward occurrence of the blight I have already noticed, but the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce upon them will show that a measure of success has already been arrived at; and it is more especially observable in respect to sample F, as it indicates what has been done with seed otherwise unsuitable to the locality. Sample G is also worthy of notice, because there is an opportunity of contrasting it with sample A above referred to (paragraph 114), which is the first season's produce of the same description of seed, and which was also a first selection from the field, and grown under every advantage of expensive and careful cultivation.

On these two samples (F and G) the Chamber of Commerce report as follows:—

Sample F.—Cotton grown at Dharwar from Hingunghaut seed—third season's pedigree.	*Opinion.*—Good colour; fair staple; strong but irregular.
Sample G.—Dharwar Native cotton from selected seed—third season.	*Opinion.*—Very good cotton; good colour; fine silky staple for Native cotton; fair length; very regular, and free from waste; similar kind of cotton to sample A, but much superior.

121. The sanction I anticipate for the experiments of the ensuing season will amount to the sum of Rs. 27,370, to be paid from the Cotton Improvement Fund, and this will admit of their being undertaken on a much more extensive scale than any hitherto attempted.

122. It must be observed that the above sum will be but a portion of the amount to be devoted next season to the same object,

there being besides an expenditure (as exhibited in Appendix Q), of Rs. 36,704 for the current year on account of the Cotton Commissioner's Establishment, which is defrayed, not from the abovementioned Fund, but from the Imperial Revenues, thus showing an aggregate expenditure of Rs. 64,074 solely on account of the improvement of cotton cultivation, and in this Presidency alone, without reference to the expenditure for the Establishment entertained for the prevention of frauds in the cotton trade.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

G. F. FORBES,

Cotton Commissioner and

Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Frauds Department.

APPENDIX A (a).

Minute by His Excellency the Governor of Bombay, dated 10th January 1868.

The experiments that have hitherto been made by the order of Government with a view to improvements in the cultivation of cotton do not appear to me to have been hitherto carried out either with sufficient persistence or sufficient method. The great importance I attach to this subject, which is indeed of vital interest to this Presidency, induces me to request the Inspector-in-Chief to devote his special attention to it during the forthcoming season.

2. The objects to be kept in view are two-fold: the improvement of the indigenous cotton, and the permanent introduction and acclimatization of the best exotic varieties.

3. Great advantage has, no doubt, been obtained from the attention that has been paid to the growth of foreign cotton, and the co-operation of the Cotton Supply Association which has facilitated the obtaining of the best seed from different quarters; but the idea seems to me to have been too readily adopted at home that the sole means of improving our cotton is to encourage the growth of the best known foreign varieties, and with this object to import and distribute every year large quantities of exotic seeds. Gentlemen interested in the supply of cotton at home have said to me that the simple duty of the Government is to introduce American cotton into India, as if it were likely, or possible, that the same kind of cotton would succeed in districts varying, as our cotton districts do, in every particular of climate, soil and elevation, or that the variety which can be successfully cultivated in the dry air of the Deccan will answer equally well in Guzerat, or on the coast of Kattywar.

4. In England I have had opportunities of seeing on my own land, and on the properties of other gentlemen, how much can be effected in the improvement of cereals by a continued attention during successive years to the selection of the best seed only from crops of a common variety. The pedigree wheat, which bears the name of Mr. Hallet, a Sussex gentleman, is, in fact, a new variety which he has produced by the constant selection each year of the finest ears produced on his farm near Brighton, and by his never permitting any seed from small or inferior ears to be sown. None but the best ears selected by hand were set aside the first year for seed; from the produce of these the best were again in the same manner selected by hand, and this course was continued for several successive years; the final result was the introduction of Hallet's Pedigree Wheat, which I have known in my own experience to produce a

crop nearly 50 per cent. more in quantity, and 50 per cent. more valuable in quality, than that produced from the best seed that could be purchased in the market, and this in the same field, under exactly the same circumstances, and with the same care taken in the cultivation.

5. I believe the same result may probably be obtained if the same process is adopted with our indigenous cotton. At any rate I desire the experiment to be carefully made, and will take care that funds are placed at the disposal of the Inspector-in-Chief for this purpose. The experiment should be tried not only in different districts, but in several parts of each district, and a sufficient breadth should be sown in each case to ensure a fair and satisfactory trial. I need not say that I do not desire to diminish the distribution of exotic cotton seed in the way which has been adopted for several years past; on the contrary, I desire it to be vigorously continued, and every encouragement given to the cultivators to avail themselves of it. But I wish the same process of selection of the finest bolls only for seed to be carried out, on land taken up for the purpose on behalf of Government, in the case both of Egyptian and American cotton. If possible, Peruvian should also be tried; but I am afraid it may not be procurable this year. Unless this is done, we may go on year by year growing cotton from imported seed with varying success, but in my belief we can scarcely hope to acclimatise in perfection the exotic varieties. It seems absurd to expect that we can perpetuate a foreign product if we propagate from seed taken from weakly or ill-grown plants. If the seed be taken only from robust and well-grown specimens, we may hope each year to obtain a produce more and more adapted to our soil and climate, but possessing all the peculiarities and advantages of that produced from imported seed.

6. The Inspector-in-Chief is, therefore, authorized to make the same experiments as those I have suggested as to the indigenous cotton with all the exotic varieties he may receive, in the same manner and on the same scale. Even if they are not successful to the extent and in the manner I anticipate, they will serve to show us, if carefully continued for the next three or four years, what are the exotic varieties of cotton which we can with confidence encourage the cultivators in each district to adopt, as being best suited to the particular circumstances of their lands.

7. A circular should be issued to the different Inspectors and their subordinates explaining what is required, and the Inspector-in-Chief should put himself into communication with the Collectors of the Districts, in order to secure their aid and co-operation.

8. The views of the Government will also be communicated to them through the Revenue Commissioner.

9. If the measures indicated above are systematically and perseveringly followed, I am sanguine that even during my tenure of office a great advance may be made towards improving and increasing the supply of cotton grown in this Presidency, so as to meet the urgent and growing requirements of the home manufacturers.

WM. R. SEYMOUR V. FITZ GERALD.

10*th January* 1868.

APPENDIX

STATEMENT showing the RECEIPTS *and* DISBURSEMENTS

COLLECTORATES.	RECEIPTS.					
	Sale of Seed, and refund of Advances.	Fees levied on Bales exported to Foreign Ports.	License Fees on Cotton Presses.	Fines and Sale Proceeds of Cotton confiscated under Act IX. of 1863.	Retrenchments for Peons' Clothing, Savings, &c.	TOTAL.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Ahmedabad	3 0 0	....	127 0 0	711 6 5	57 11 0	899 1 5
Ahmednuggur ...	206 2 11	....	....	....	2 0 0	208 2 11
Belgaum.....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Candeish	16,124 10 1	....	207 0 0	....	1,060 11 3	17,392 5 4
Canara	....	....	70 0 0	....	16 13 9	86 13 9
Dharwar.....	....	....	....	....	116 11 2	116 11 2
Hydrabad	....	....	....	....	....	....
Kaira	....	....	9 13 0	....	....	9 13 0
Kulladghee	145 10 7	....	....	....	23 15 2	169 9 9
Kurrachee	1,473 14 8	5,101 2 0	49 0 0	....	34 7 4	6,658 8 0
Poona&Sholapoor	85 2 5	....	10 0 0	118 9 3	194 6 3	408 1 11
Surat and Broach	291 4 11	830 10 4	178 0 0	382 10 6	61 9 6	1,734 3 3
Sattara	9 12 5	....	0 8 0	....	....	10 4 5
Rutnagherry ..	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tanna	....	....	....	....	....	....
Commissioner of Customs, Bombay.	....	2,45,290 4 6	681 0 0	....	225 15 11	2,46,197 4 5
Grand Total.. Rs	18,329 10 0	2,51,223 0 10	1,332 5 0	1,212 10 2	1,794 5 4	2,73,890 15 4

A.

of the COTTON IMPROVEMENT FUND *during* 1868.

DISBURSEMENTS.						REMARKS.
Pay of the Establishment.	Permanent Travelling and Conveyance Allowances.	Contingent Charges of every description.	Rewards.	Advances.	TOTAL.	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
13,360 11 1	1,400 0 0	649 5 0	....	825 0 0	16,235 0 1	
....	....	19 15 0	....	587 2 0	607 1 0	
3,935 8 7	....	439 5 0	....	....	4,374 13 7	
12,915 7 9	11,010 8 1	7,842 10 0	....	30 0 4	31,798 10 2	
8,344 8 3	2,400 0 0	478 4 6	....	....	11,222 12 9	
9,326 6 6	343 1 0	356 5 0	....	5,598 13 2	15,624 9 8	
....	....	....	....	500 0 0	500 0 0	
....	....	....	....	....	....	
8,178 10 0	1,400 0 0	549 4 9	....	500 0 0	10,627 14 9	
9,647 8 8	2,813 9 0	800 7 11	....	1,225 0 0	14,576 9 7	
15,829 13 9	3,849 7 6	574 6 0	....	700 0 0	20,953 11 3	
23,236 8 5	3,226 1 0	205 1 0	....	9,079 7 1	35,747 1 6	
....	....	....	....	159 0 0	159 0 0	
2,004 6 0	....	....	....	....	2,004 6 0	
5,809 14 3	....	....	....	....	5,809 14 3	
75,523 14 6	5,223 11 3	7,000 9 1	....	1,621 4 10	89,369 7 8	
1,88,113 5 9	31,666 5 10	19,005 9 3	....	20,825 11 5	2,59,611 0 3	

G. F. FORBES,
Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT of the Monthly Expenditure of the by Government, and the Estimated Expenditure

Locality.	Designation.	Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1868.			Total.		
1	2	3			4		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
For the Town and Island of Bombay.	Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department	2,458	5	4			
	Senior Cotton Inspector	1,000	0	0			
	Cotton Inspector	900	0	0			
	Ditto ditto	800	0	0			
	9 Sub-Inspectors—3 at Rs. 150 each, and 6 at Rs. 100 each	1,050	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	500	0	0			
					6,708	5	4
Ahmedabad and Kaira..	Inspector	1,000	0	0			
	4 Sub-Inspectors—2 on Rs. 120 each, and 2 on Rs. 80 each	400	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150	0	0			
	8 Peons for Sub-Inspectors, at Rs. 9 each	72	0	0			
					1,622	0	0
Kaudeish	Inspector	900	0	0			
	2 Sub-Inspectors, at Rs. 120 each	240	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingent Charges	150	0	0			
	Peons for Sub-Inspectors	40	0	0			
					1,330	0	0
Surat and Broach	Inspector	900	0	0			
	4 Sub-Inspectors—2 on Rs. 120 each, and 2 on Rs. 80 each	400	0	0			
	2 Preventive Inspectors—one on Rs. 200, and one extra Sub-Inspector on Rs. 80.	* 280	0	0			
	Batta to one Preventive Inspector, at Rs. 1-8 per diem, and to the other at 11 annas per diem	† 65	10	0			
	1 Boat at Rs. 40; 1 Tindal at Rs. 15; 6 Guards at Rs. 30, 20, 12, 12, 12, 12; 6 Lascars at Rs. 12 each; 17 Watchers at Rs. 10 each; 5 Boats at Rs. 8 each; one Tony at Rs. 3—all for eight months only	‡ 438	0	0			
	Carried forward	2,083	10	0	9,660	5	4

B.

Establishment in 1868, *entertained under Act IX. of* 1863, *as sanctioned for* 1869-70, *for which sanction is solicited.*

Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1869-70.	TOTAL.	Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
5	6	7	8	9
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
2,458 5 4				
1,000 0 0				
900 0 0				
800 0 0				
1,050 0 0				
500 0 0				
	6,708 5 4			
1,000 0 0				
400 0 0				
150 0 0				
72 0 0				
	1,622 0 0			
900 0 0				
240 0 0				
150 0 0				
40 0 0				
	1,330 0 0			
900 0 0				
400 0 0				
280 0 0				* As per Government Resolutions Nos. 497 and 4605, dated 12th March and 7th December 1868. † As per Government Resolution No. 3190 of 24th August 1868.
* 65 10 0				
438 0 0				‡ As per Government Resolution No. 4605, of 7th December 1868.
2,083 10 0	9,660 5 4			

Comparative Statement

Locality.	Designation.	Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1868.			Total.		
1	2	3			4		
		Rs.	a.	p.	Rs.	a.	p.
	Brought forward	2,083	10	0	9,660	5	4
Surat and Broach—*continued.*	2 Peons, at Rs. 9 each, for extra Sub-Inspector	* 18	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingencies.	150	0	0			
	8 Peons, at Rs. 9 each, for Sub-Inspectors	72	0	0			
					2,323	10	0
Belgaum, Dharwar, and Kulladghee.	Inspector	900	0	0			
	Extra-Inspector	* 700	0	0			
	3 Sub-Inspectors, 2 on Rs. 120 each, and one on Rs. 80.....	320	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingencies	150	0	0			
	6 Peons for Sub-Inspectors	54	0	0			
					2,124	0	0
Sholapore, Sattara, Poona and Ahmednuggur.	Inspector.....	900	0	0			
	1 Sub-Inspector	150	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingencies	150	0	0			
	2 Peons for Sub-Inspectors	18	0	0			
					1,218	0	0
Sind.....	Inspector	700	0	0			
	1 Sub-Inspector.....	150	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingencies	150	0	0			
	2 Peons for Sub-Inspector, at Rs. 9 each	18	0	0			
					1,018	0	0
Canara and Rutnagherry.	Inspector	800	0	0			
	1 Sub-Inspector.....	150	0	0			
	Office Establishment, including Contingencies.....	150	0	0			
	2 Peons for Sub-Inspector	18	0	0			
					1,118	0	0
Hubshee's Territory.	Inspector	350	0	0			
	Naique on Rs. 10, and 2 Peons at Rs. 9 each	28	0	0			
	Hire of a Boat and pay of the Crew for 8 months.....	150	0	0			
					528	0	0
	Total....Rupees	....			†17,989	15	4

—continued.

Monthly Salary, including every sort of Allowance, in 1869-70	TOTAL.	Increase.	Decrease.	REMARKS.
5	6	7	8	9
Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
2,083 10 0	9,660 5 4			
18 0 0				*As per Government Resolution No. 4605, of 7th December 1868.
150 0 0				
72 0 0				
	2,323 10 0			
900 0 0				
700 0 0				
320 0 0				
150 0 0				
54 0 0				
	2,124 0 0			
900 0 0				
150 0 0				
150 0 0				
18 0 0				
	1,218 0 0			
700 0 0				
150 0 0				
150 0 0				
18 0 0				
	1,018 0 0			
800 0 0				
150 0 0				
150 0 0				
18 0 0				
	1,118 0 0			
350 0 0				
28 0 0				
150 0 0				
	528 0 0			† The total expenditure for the year is Rs. 2,13,527-8-0.
	17,989 15 4			

G. F. FORBES,
Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX C.

STATEMENT of Cotton Presses Licensed and Worked throughout the Bombay Presidency during the year 1868-69, *contrasted with those in* 1867.

No.	Collectorates.	No of Presses in 1867.		No. of Presses in 1868-69.		Localities in which Presses are situated.	Remarks.
		Worked by manual labour.	Worked by steam power.	Worked by manual labour.	Worked by steam power.		
1	Ahmedabad and Kaira.	109	....	118	....	Ahmedabad, Dhollera, Veerungaum, Gogo, Neriad, Oomret, and Anund.	
2	Bombay	6	135	6	147	Fort, Colaba, Carnac Bunder, and Mandvie.	
3	Canara	....	6	....	7	Carwar.	
4	Candeish	1	2	11	2	Julgaum.	
5	Sind	5	5	2	7	* Kurrachee	*The erection of two more Steam Presses at this station is in contemplation.
6	Sholapore	....	2	....	4	Barsee and Sholapore.	
7	Surat and Broach	101	3	157	4†	Surat and Broach	†Of these 4 Steam Presses, one is used for full-pressing, and the rest for half-pressing, cotton bales.
	Total....	222	153	294	171		

G. F. FORBES,
Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX D.

STATEMENT of Cotton Gins worked by Steam power in the Bombay Presidency in the year 1868-69, *as contrasted with those in* 1867.

Collectorates.	Stations.	In the year 1867.	In the year 1868-69.	Remarks.
Ahmedabad	Ahmedabad and Veerungaum..... ..	206	195	
Bombay	Khetwady....	16	10	
Khandeish	Julgaum, Nussawud, and Yawul ..	131	133	
Surat	Surat and Broach..	950	950	
	Total....	1,303	1,288	

G. F. FORBES,

Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

APPENDIX E.

STATEMENT of Cases tried during the year 1868-69 *under Bombay Act IX. of* 1863.

Names of Accused.	Nature of Offence, and the Section of Act IX. of 1863 under which the Charge was made.	Decision.	Date of Decision.	Locality.
1	2	3	4	5
Muthoor Maljee.....	Offering adulterated Cotton for compression (Section VIII.).	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 40, and Cotton confiscated.	30th July 1868..	Ahmedabad.
Ramnarron Lalljee.....	Working Cotton Press without a license (Section IV.).	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 15.	„ „	Ahmedabad.
Jewjee Verjee.....	Offering adulterated Cotton for compression (Section VIII.).	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 200. (The prisoner was subsequently sentenced by the High Court to one year's rigorous imprisonment under the Penal Code for giving the Sub-Inspector a bribe to induce him to pass the Cotton, the subject of the above conviction).	21st December..	Bombay.
Jumnadass Bhaedass	Deceptively attempting to increase the weight of Cotton by exposing it to dew (Section II).	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 50.	27th February ..	Broach.
Manackchund Malapchund and Oomer Moosey.	Ditto ditto, and offering the same for sale (Section III).	Convicted and sentenced each to pay a fine of Rs. 25, and Cotton confiscated.	9th April	Broach.
Sewappa bin Erappa	Fraudulently mixing Cotton of different varieties in one bale (Section II).	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 25, and to undergo 7 days' simple imprisonment.	30th „	Dharwar.
Balchund bin Moolchund..	Adulterating 5 bales of Cotton by mixing therewith seed, pieces of rope, and other rubbish (Section II).	Convicted and sentenced to undergo one month's rigorous imprisonment, and to pay a fine of Rs. 200, and Cotton confiscated.	20th February ..	Poona.
Amberjee Hemjee	Offering adulterated Cotton for compression (Section VIII).	Convicted and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 50, and Cotton confiscated.	30th April.....	Sholapore.

G. F. FORBES,
Officiating Inspector-in-Chief, Cotton Department.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay, 24th February 1869.

The Honourable B. H. ELLIS,

First Member of Council, Bombay.

SIR,—The "Bill for the Prevention of Adulteration of Cotton and the better suppression of Frauds in the Cotton Trade in the Presidency of Bombay, and for providing funds to improve the cultivation of Cotton," which was introduced by you to the Council of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay for making Laws and Regulations, and read a first time on Wednesday last, has been under the consideration of the Chamber of Commerce, and I am directed by the Committee of Management to lay before you, for the information of the Select Committee to which the Bill has been referred, a copy of the same, with certain amendments which the Committee consider improvements on the Bill in its present form, and necessary, if the Bill is to be a help rather than a hindrance to the Cotton Trade.

The words fraudulently and dishonestly, are suggested for insertion in Section II. at the places marked in the accompanying copy of the Bill, which seem indispensable to the right working of the Bill should it become law; as the clause now stands every merchant engaged in the Cotton trade may be rendered liable to fine or imprisonment. The Committee also consider the words "liable to be," noted towards the end of Section II., necessary to be inserted, as persons may innocently come into possession of adulterated cotton and they ought not to be made to suffer loss thereby.

The same remark applies to Section III., where the words "liable to be" are also noted for insertion.

I am also to observe, the Committee consider Section II. should state that confiscated cotton will be disposed of by the Cotton Commissioner or Inspector-in-Chief, under rules laid down by Government, as the present custom of working up confiscated cotton in Jails tends to create suspicion in the minds of the Natives as to the real object of Government in confiscating the cotton.

Sections VIII. and IX. ought, in the opinion of the Committee, to be expunged, as Section II. sufficiently provides for the punishment of fraud, while the carrying out of these clauses as they stand in the Bill would simply tend to the obstruction of legitimate trade.

The Committee beg to point out that adulterated and mixed cotton are regular articles of commerce.

Section XII. should in the opinion of the Commitee be confined in its application to the Mofussil districts, where adulteration and

deterioration take place, and not applied to Bombay where the carrying out of such a clause might open the door to unnecessary oppression.

Section XIII. makes the Cotton Inspectors in Bombay subject to the Commissioner of Customs. The object of this is not apparent, and it seems to the Committee that the Inspectors would be better placed under the control of the Inspector-in-Chief or the Head of the Department.

Section XIV. should be amended in the manner indicated in the copy of the Bill now sent, and in the amended form it provides for Section XVI., which thus becomes unnecessary; Section XV. would give to the Inspectors most dangerous powers and the Committee are of opinion that it should be expunged: it is moreover unnecessary, as the Bill otherwise provides sufficiently for the suppression of fraud.

Section XVIII. proposes to provide for the purchase, importation, and introduction of machinery for cultivating, cleaning, and compressing cotton, and for other purposes connected with the improvement of the cultivation of cotton.

The question of the improvement of cotton is one of great importance, and deserving of the best attention of Government.

The Committee are, however, respectfully of opinion that it is the province of the Government of this country, from the beneficial interest it retains in the land, to take measures for the improvement, not of cotton merely, but of all other articles of Indian agricultural produce, and to provide for the cost of the same from the Imperial Revenues, and not from this fund, which the Committee consider should be applied only to the prevention of fraud, and they object therefore to this portion of the Bill.

Judging from the experience of the last two years, the Committee are of opinion, that so large a sum of money as now lies at the credit of the present fund, being devoted at once to the improvement of cotton cultivation would tend to the larger portion of it being expended in doubtful schemes, and that only the careful supervision which Government exercises over its own resources will lead to a judicious expenditure. Should the fund be reserved specially for its original purpose, as herein urged, the large amount now in hand will enable Government to reduce the fee to one anna per bale.

The Committee would further respectfully urge upon Government the importance in the interests of the Cotton trade of the country, to make all such charges as light as possible, and throw no obstacle in the way of its competing with the steadily increasing cotton supply from America.

Section XIX. proposes to appoint a Cotton Commissioner under this Act to be paid out of the fund derived from the export fees.

I am however to point out to the Select Committee for considering this Bill, that we have already a Cotton Commissioner for this Presidency, appointed by the Secretary of State, and his salary paid out of the Imperial Revenues, so that such an appointment under this Bill is unnecessary, and if it be the intention of Government to increase the staff of the Cotton Commissioner by appointing Assistants under him, the salaries of these should be paid from the same source.

Section XX. provides that a portion of the fund shall be transferred to the Chief Commissioner Central Provinces and the Resident at Hyderabad, in respect of Cotton exported from the Central Provinces and the Berars.

No objection is made to this proposal, but the amount specified in the clause is excessive, and a sum of Rupees 20,000 would, in the opinion of the Committee, be about the proper proportion to be assigned for the purpose in question.

The Committee are of opinion that the fees leviable upon Presses should be merely nominal, and that there is no necessity for the proposed increase.

Trusting the views herein set forth, and the alterations noted in the accompanying copy of the Bill, may have the favourable consideration of the Select Committeee.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

The following Bill, together with the Statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying it, is published in accordance with Rule 15 of the Rules for the conduct of business at Meetings of the Council of His Excellency the Governor of Bombay for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations :—

Bill No. 4 of 1869.

A Bill for the Prevention of Adulteration of Cotton and the better Suppression of Frauds in the Cotton Trade in the Presidency of Bombay, and for providing funds to improve the cultivation of Cotton.

Preamble.

Whereas it is expedient to consolidate and amend the Law for the suppression of fraudulent practices in the Cotton Trade within the Territories subject to the Government of the Presidency of Bombay, and whereas it is expedient to provide funds for purposes connected with the improvement of the cultivation and preparation of Cotton; It is enacted as follows :—

I. (Bombay) Act IX. of 1863 is hereby repealed. Provided that all appointments made and licenses granted under (Bombay) Act IX. of 1863 shall be held valid for the purposes of this Act, and that any penalties incurred under (Bombay) Act IX. of 1863 previous to the coming into operation of this Act, shall be leviable under this Act.

Repeal of (Bombay) Act IX. of 1863.

II. Whoever adulterates or deteriorates cotton by mixing therewith any seed, dirt, stones, or other foreign matter, or by mixing cleaned and uncleaned cotton commonly called cuppas, or cotton of different varieties, or old and new cotton, that is cotton of the growth of different seasons, or who intentionally increases or attempts to increase the weight of the same by exposing it to dew or by any other means, shall be punishable on conviction with imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding twelve months, and shall also be liable to fine; all cotton so adulterated, or deteriorated, or mixed, or increased in weight, and which has formed the subject of such a conviction, shall be confiscated and disposed of according to the orders of the Cotton Commissioner and Inspector-in-Chief hereafter to be appointed.

Punishment for adulteration or deterioration of Cotton.

III. Whoever fraudulently or dishonestly sells, or offers for sale, any cotton adulterated, deteriorated, mixed, or increased in weight, as described in Section II. of this Act, shall be punishable on conviction with imprisonment of either description for a term not exceeding twelve months, or with fine, or with both. All such cotton so sold or so offered for sale, and which has formed the subject of such a conviction, shall be confiscated and disposed of according to the orders of the Cotton Commissioner and Inspector-in-Chief hereafter to be appointed.

Punishment for fraudulently selling or offering for sale adulterated or deteriorated Cotton.

IV. No press used or capable of use for the purpose of compressing cotton shall be so used without a license obtained under Bombay Act IX. of 1863 or under this Act in the manner and subject to the conditions hereinafter described; and any person who shall without such license, so use, or attempt to use such press, shall be punishable on conviction with fine not exceeding Rupees One Thousand.

No Cotton Press to be established or worked without a license.

V. Licenses for the working of cotton presses may be granted by the Collector of the District within which such presses are to be worked, or such other Officer as the Governor in Council may empower in that behalf, to any person or persons whom the Collector or such Officer may be satisfied is in possession

All Cotton Presses to be licensed.

of the press for the license of which he applies, and such licenses shall expire and shall be renewable in every case upon the 1st January of the year next ensuing, and subject to such rules as the Governor in Council may from time to time prescribe, the Collector or other Officer aforesaid may for reasons which he shall state in writing under his signature, to the person applying for such license or renewal, refuse to grant or to renew the license of any press; and whoever after such refusal shall work, or permit to be worked, any such press, shall be liable to the penalty in the last Section prescribed.

Licenses to whom to be granted. Licensees to be regarded as owners.

VI. For all purposes of this Act, the licensee shall be held to be the owner of the press for which he has obtained a license. In all cases the press shall be liable for any penalties imposed on the license under this Act.

Alteration or removal of Presses not to be made without renewed license.

VII. Every license issued under this Act shall specify the number of presses for which the same is granted, the locality in which they are situated, and the power employed for working them, according to a written statement which shall accompany the application for such license, and for every press so licensed, or the license of which shall be so renewed, a fee shall be levied at the rate set forth in the Schedule to this Act annexed; and upon the removal to another locality, unless by the written permission of the Cotton Inspector of the district, of a press included in any license, or upon change of the power employed for working the same, it shall be necessary for the licensee to obtain a new license, subject to the conditions aforesaid, failing which he shall be liable to the penalty prescribed in Section IV.

Penalty for offering adulterated Cotton for compression.

VIII. Any person offering for compression cotton adulterated, or deteriorated, or mixed as described in Section II., shall on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding Rupees One Thousand, and all such cotton shall be confiscated. Any cotton found on the premises appertinent to a press shall be *primâ facie* held to have been sent there for the purpose of compression.

Withdrawal of License when adulterated Cotton is pressed.

IX. Any licensee of a press who shall press or attempt to press or allow to be pressed cotton adulterated, mixed, or deteriorated in the manner specfied in Section II. shall be liable to have his license withdrawn by the Collector of the District or other officer empowered under Section 5 to grant licenses; and shall further be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Rs. 1,000.

X. It shall be incumbent on every applicant for a license under this Act to lodge with the Collector or other Officer empowered to issue such license, a cloth, parchment, or paper, impressed or marked either with some distinctive mark, not less than one foot square, or with his name, or that of his firm or company, in letters not less than one inch and a half long, which name for any press in the City of Bombay shall be in the English language, and such name or mark shall be called a press-mark, and upon the grant of such license the licensee shall be bound to mark or cause to be marked every bale compressed by any press in his possession, or included in such license with a press-mark, which press-mark shall be affixed to the wrapper or cloth underlying the fastenings or bands of such bale, and for every case of failure so to mark any such bale compressed as aforesaid, such licensee shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Rupees One Hundred, and his license, if it be so adjudged by the Magistrate, shall be suspended or shall become null and void as to all presses for compressing cotton included therein.

Every licensee of a Cotton press to use a distinguishing name or mark.

XI. If any person shall counterfeit or imitate any press-mark for the use of which license under this Act shall have been granted, or shall pack any bale of cotton in any cloth or wrapper bearing a press-mark which he shall not have been licensed to employ, he shall be liable on conviction to imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or to fine, or to both.

Penalty for counterfeiting any press-mark or using it without authority.

XII. Government may appoint such and so many Officers to be styled Inspectors of Cotton, as shall appear expedient, and it shall be the duty of such Officers to suppress the use of unlicensed presses for compressing cotton, and to examine cotton offered for compression or exposed or intended for sale, and in the execution of such duty such Officers shall at all times have access to every building and enclosure within which cotton is stored or deposited, or any gin or press for cleaning or compressing cotton at work or prepared for work is situated, and if the licensee of any press for compressing cotton, or his servant or agent, shall be convicted of having offered any obstruction to such Inspector in the execution of his duty, his license may be adjudged by a Magistrate to be suspended for a fixed time, or to have become null and void.

Appointment of Inspectors of Cotton. Their duties. To have access to all Stores of Cotton and all Presses and Gins.

XIII. The Inspectors of Cotton shall in their official capacities be subject, in the Island of Bombay to the orders of the Commissioner of Customs, and in all parts of the Presidency, except the Island of

Control of Inspectors.

Bombay, to the orders of the Collector of the District in which they hold their appointments, or in which they are at the time employed, and shall at all times be liable to dismissal by order of the Governor in Council for neglect or misconduct in the discharge of their official duties.

Inspectors may seize adulterated Cotton and give the offenders into custody of the Police.

XIV. It shall be lawful for any Inspector of Cotton to seize and detain any cotton with respect to which any offence under this Act shall appear to have been committed, and to give such cotton into the custody of any Police Officer and such Police Officer shall be bound to assist such Inspector of Cotton in seizing and detaining such cotton, and in bringing the offender to justice.

Inspector to take possession of adulterated Cotton found on the premises of a Press.

XV. It shall be lawful for any Inspector of Cotton on finding on the premises of a press any cotton adulterated, mixed, or deteriorated in the manner specified in Section II. to take possession of the same, or, if he thinks fit, to give notice to the licensee of such press that such cotton is unfit for compression, and any licensee proceeding to compress such cotton or allowing it to be compressed after such notice given, shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding Rs. 1,000.

Inspector to retain samples of any adulterated Cotton.

XVI. It shall be lawful for any Inspector of Cotton to take and retain samples of any cotton which in his opinion is adulterated, mixed, or deteriorated in the manner specified in Section II.

Proceedings against person offending under this Act.

XVII. No person offending against this Act shall be proceeded against except by summons on information laid by the Inspector or by some other person. And without the warrant of a Magistrate it shall not be competent to any Inspector to open any bale finally pressed for foreign export.

A fee of Annas 4 a bale may be levied on exported Cotton.

XVIII. There shall be levied upon every bale of cotton exported from any port or place in the Presidency of Bombay to any port or place other than in British India, a fee not exceeding 4 annas, and all fees so levied shall be paid to the credit of a fund, to be termed the Cotton Improvement Fund. The Cotton Improvement Fund shall be at the disposal of Government, to provide for the salaries of the Officers appointed under (Bombay) Act IX. of 1863, or under this Act, and the expenses of their Establishment, and the cost of collecting the fees leviable under this Act, and to provide for the purchase, importation, and introduction of machinery for cultivating, cleaning, and compressing cotton, and for other purposes connected with the improvement of the cultivation of cotton.

XIX. Government may appoint a Cotton Commissioner, whose duty it shall be to promote the improvement of the cultivation and cleaning of Cotton, and to execute this Act, and who shall be styled Commissioner and Inspector-in-Chief. He shall have as many Assistants as Government may deem it expedient to appoint. They shall be styled Assistants to the Cotton Commissioner, and shall in their official capacities be subject to the orders of the Cotton Commissioner, and shall at all times be liable to dismissal by order of the Governor in Council for neglect or misconduct in the discharge of their official duties.

Appointment of a Cotton Commissioner.

XX. It shall be lawful for Government to transfer to the Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces and to the Resident at Hyderabad for expenditure on the objects contemplated in this Act sums not exceeding in the aggregate Rs. 40,000 in any one year from the proceeds of the fees hereafter levied in Bombay under this Act in respect of Cotton exported from the Central Provinces and the Assigned Districts of His Highness the Nizam.

Transfer of a portion of fees to Central Provinces.

XXI. All sums from the Cotton Improvement Fund expended prior to the passing of this Act for any of the purposes specified in this Act shall be deemed to have been expended as if this Act had been passed.

Sums expended prior to the passing of this Act.

XXII. All offences against this Act may be tried, and all confiscations, and fines under the provisions thereof may within the town of Bombay be adjudicated by any Magistrate of Police, and elsewhere by any Magistrate with powers not inferior to those of a Subordinate Magistrate of the First Class, and all fines may be levied by distraint and sale of the offender's goods by warrant under the hand of such Magistrate, and shall otherwise be subject to the rules in relation to fines and the commutation and levy thereof prescribed by the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure; Provided that, in the infliction of the penalties provided by this Act, no magistrate shall exceed the limits of his ordinary Criminal jurisdiction, and that all fines and fees recovered, and the proceeds of all cotton confiscated under this Act, shall be carried to the credit of the Cotton Improvement Fund.

Adjudication of offences, confiscations, and fines.

Disposal of fines, &c.

XXIII. Nothing in this Act shall affect the civil rights of any parties defrauded by any offender against this Act, but they may sue for the same as if this Act had not been passed.

Civil remedies not barred.

XXIV. The word "bale" when used in this Act shall be held to include "dokra" and all other packages of cotton. The word "gin" shall be held to include "churkas" and all other machines used for the purpose of cleaning cotton. The word "press" shall be held to include every kind of machinery used for the purpose of compressing cotton. The words "Foreign Export" shall be held to mean export out of British India.

Construction.

SCHEDULE.

	Fees leviable,
For every press worked by steam or other power ..	Rs. 50 0 0
For every press worked by animal or manual labour, and not by steam ..	„ 20 0 0
For every press worked by manual labour alone ..	„ 10 0 0

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS.

It has been found that the present Law does not sufficiently provide for the suppression of frauds in respect to Cotton, and that the admixture of different descriptions of cotton is practised to such an extent as to act injuriously upon the trade.

It is also considered expedient to sanction by Legislative enactment the expenditure of a portion of the revenue realized from Cotton Export Fees in the improvement of the growth of cotton, and of machinery applicable to the preparation of cotton for export, and also to allow the appropriation of a certain portion of this revenue for the same objects beyond the limits of this Presidency.

(Signed) B. H. ELLIS.

9th February 1869.

By order of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council,

N. M. W. DANIELL,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 9th February 1869.

No. 140 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
12th June 1869.

TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to state for the information of Government that serious complaints have been made to the Chamber regarding

the very unsatisfactory condition in which Broach and other Guzerat cotton has been brought to market during the season now partially closed.

Broach cotton has been found to be not merely badly cleaned, but also full of sand and seed, and in many cases pressed in the Native presses in a wet state, by which the staple has been seriously injured.

The Committee have no information as to what may have been done in the way of trying to prevent, or, if unable to prevent, in bringing to punishment those who have been guilty of these scandalous frauds by the officers of the Cotton Frauds Department. But it appears to the Committee, if we are to have such a department, the frauds referred to are of a character which the department ought to be able to grapple with, and put down, if it is to be of any practical use.

To such an extent has this system of adulteration been carried, that during the season just closed, machine-ginned Broach cotton has sold for more than Rs. 20 per candy above the price obtained for Native churkaed cotton, while in former years the difference was barely Rs. 3 per candy.

As one very important means of neutralising the system of frauds above referred to, the Committee beg respectfully to suggest to Government the establishment of cotton markets at Broach and other places in Guzerat, where the quantity of cotton for sale would induce exporters to send their agents to make purchases direct from the ryots.

The advantage of such cotton markets has been strikingly exemplified in the success which has attended those established at Oomrawuttee and Khangaon in Berar, and even by the establishment of a cotton market at Julgaum during the present season by the Collector of Khandeish, an experiment which has succeeded, according to the information laid before the Chamber, notwithstanding a bad cotton season, beyond expectation.

The want of a Cotton Market at Broach and other places in Guzerat has been much felt, and the Committee respectfully trust Government will give such instructions on this subject to the various Collectors in Guzerat, as will ensure the establishment of markets at Broach and other suitable places in time to enable both ryots and dealers to prepare for them, and avail of the conveniences they afford for the transaction of business, before the opening of the next cotton season.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

No. 3256 OF 1869.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 7th August 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay.

SIR,—Adverting to your letter* dated 12th June last, I am directed to forward the accompanying copy of a report from Dr. G. F. Forbes, Officiating Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Department, No. 211, dated 20th ultimo, and to refer the Chamber of Commerce to the Government Resolution No. 3226 of yesterday's date, passed on the Annual Report of the Cotton Department for the past year.

* Complaining of the very unsatisfactory condition in which Broach and other Guzerat cotton has been brought to market during the current season.

I have, &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

No. 211 OF 1869.

From THE COTTON COMMISSIONER,

To THE UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

Bombay, 20th July 1869.

SIR,—I have the honour to report that I entirely coincide in the opinion expressed by the Chamber of Commerce as to the expediency of establishing a Cotton Mart at Broach. I may at the same time add that in this matter I have anticipated the Chamber by submitting a proposal to Government in my Annual Report of the Cotton Department for 1868-69, forwarded on the 30th of May last, and I would respectfully beg to refer to paras. 34, 35, and 36 of that report for an explanation of the reasons which in my opinion render the establishment of such a market most desirable.

I have &c.,

G. F. FORBES,

Offig. Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Department.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Madras, 3rd June 1869.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have just had the pleasure of receiving a copy of the Report of your Chamber for the year 1867-68. From this I learn that the working of the Cotton Frauds Act continued to have the attention of your Committee, that "inefficient as the Act was in most respects, it was inexpedient to move for its repeal," and that in your Committee's opinion that "Act might be amended in such a manner," as, instead of being a mere Police measure, "it might be transformed into a Cotton Improvement Act." Beyond this there is little in the Report to acquaint the reader, outside your Presidency, with the opinions based upon the experience of some years, that the members of your Chamber now mostly entertain on the subject.

This comparative indifference to a question that occupied so much valuable space in your previous Reports would, coupled with the words I have above-quoted, almost seem to show that there has been a general change in commercial opinion in Bombay respecting the need of and benefits derivable from the Act, which your Chamber took such laudable pains to obtain from the Supreme Government.

In May of last year the Madras Government requested this Chamber to express their opinion on a petition to the Governor from certain "Press Proprietors, Managers, Agents, and Traders in Cotton," at Tuticorin. The Memorialists prayed that "since they had experienced great loss and inconvenience by the extensive, increasing, and systematic adulteration of Tinnevelly Cotton, the Cotton Frauds Act of 1868 might be extended to the Districts of Madura and Tinnevelly," in which the aforenamed description of Cotton is cultivated. The memorial did not express the unanimous opinion of Tuticorin merchants, but it was supported by the endorsement of the Collector of Tinnevelly, who approved of the proposal of the memorialists contained in a covering letter addressed to himself, that an establishment of Inspectors, to be paid by a license on the Ginning house, should be sanctioned by the Government. This Chamber took the matter into earnest consideration, and resolved that the proposed extension of the Act was neither expedient nor desirable, that "the best check that can be employed for the suppression of frauds in the Cotton trade is already possessed by the buyer," whose "duty and interest it is to exert it by a constant and diligent inspection of the Cotton that he purchases." The Chamber further informed the Government that in their opinion "the disadvantages of the intervention of Government" between buyer and seller "far outweigh the advantages."

The season for Western Cotton has recently opened in Madras, and has, so far, been characterised by a more than usual predominance of seedy, if not, more correctly speaking, wilfully adulterated cotton, in the new crop that has come forward. The attention of the Chamber has thus once again been called to the apparent growth of an evil which undoubtedly militates in the most serious manner against the reputation of Indian Cotton, but this Chamber generally are of opinion that the evil of adulterated cotton is one that can be remedied by shippers recognising and acting strictly up to the conviction, that in the long run it must be to their own benefit, and to the benefit also of the trade of India, to refuse to buy cotton that is adulterated. There would be no adulterators were there no purchasers of adulterated goods. Yet it is felt by this Chamber that it would be useful to ascertain, more definitely than is stated in your Annual Report, the opinions now general in your city regarding the practical benefits of the Frauds' Act, and the proposal to modify it into an Improvement Act only.

This Chamber have from time to time been favoured by Mr. Rivett-Carnac, the Cotton Commissioner in your Presidency, with exhaustive and very able reports of his proceedings. There may be much in the conditions of his field of labour and the cotton-producing districts of this Presidency of an analogous character, and doubtless, were an analogous appointment to that which Mr. Rivett-Carnac so efficiently fills in Bombay to be constituted in Madras, the records of his experiences would prove of very considerable service to any gentleman who may be charged with similar duties here. There is very little, I may almost say no probability of this Chamber approving of the extension of the Frauds' Act to this Presidency or to any part or parts of it, but a well-digested scheme for the improvement of the growth of Cotton could hardly fail to commend itself to the Chamber. At present cotton is cultivated in Madras in a primitively unscientific way, and no one is charged to offer advice, or to recommend seed to the ryots.

I may add that the exports of Cotton from this Presidency are officially stated at—

	Cwts.
1862	487,949
1863	629,207
1864	559,844
1865	877,868
1866	513,726
1867	558,910
1868	856,509

I am accordingly directed to solicit you to be so good as to state what may be the opinion of your Chamber on the working of the Cotton Frauds' Act, the assumed effect on the character of the cot-

ton, and the ascertained influence on the extent of cultivation ; and, also, whether your Chamber still approve of the introduction of a Cotton Improvement Act, with the joint object of improving the quality, and promoting the growth of cotton.

I have the honour to be, &c.

C. A LAWSON, Secretary.

No. 141 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

14*th June* 1869.

C. A. LAWSON, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Madras.

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, requesting to be informed as to the opinion of this Chamber on "the working of the Cotton Frauds Act, the assumed effect on the character of the cotton, and the ascertained influence on the extent of cultivation, and whether this Chamber still approves of the introduction of a Cotton Improvement Act, with the joint object of improving the quality and promoting the growth of cotton."

2. In reply I am directed by the Committee of Management to inform you that you are under a misapprehension when you infer "comparative indifference on the part of this Chamber on the question of the working of the 'Bombay Cotton Frauds' Act;'" merely on the ground that you found little information on the subject in the Chamber's Report for the year 1867-68.

3. Up to the close of the official year 1867-68 no report on the working of the Cotton Frauds' Act had been published by Government, and it was not deemed expedient to publish the opinions expressed on the subject by the members in the absence of all action on the part of Government in reference to the views that had already been laid before it by the Chamber.

4. Early in the present year a new Cotton Bill was introduced into the Local Legislative Council, intended as an improvement on the Act now in force, but many of the provisions were of such an objectionable character that this Chamber remonstrated against them in a letter addressed to the Select Committee of the Council appointed to consider the Bill.

5. The Bill as revised by the Committee has been published, but no further proceedings have been taken in the matter, though no doubt it will come on for renewed consideration when the Council meets at Poona, a few weeks hence.

6. There has been a growing conviction amongst the members of this Chamber for some time past that the Cotton Frauds' Act is worthless for the purposes it was expected to serve when it was called into existence, and they would probably ere this have moved for its repeal but for the fear on the part of some of the members that bad consequences might result from such a course.

7. In the Report of this Chamber for 1866-67, at page 101, you will find a letter addressed by the Chamber to Government in reply to a reference from the Punjab as to the expediency of introducing an Act in that province similar to the Bombay Act; which expresses substantially the views of this Chamber on the subject at the present moment.

8. The condition of affairs in reference to the adulteration of cotton in this Presidency in former days seems to have been special and peculiar, as compared with other parts of India.

9. More than forty years ago, when the East India Company was still a trading Company, Regulations were passed for the suppression and punishment of frauds in connection with the cotton trade in Guzerat.

10. When from 1847 to 1850 there was unusual demand in England for Indian Cotton, adulteration and frauds in the trade were common, and these Regulations, when rigorously put in force under the orders of the Collectors, were found most effectual in securing their repression.

11. These Regulations, which in the first instance were only applicable to the Mofussil, were, by an Act of the Government of India, in 1851 made applicable to Bombay, and this state of the law continued till 1862.

12. In that year the enormous demand for cotton to meet the wants of the manufacturers in Lancashire, and the high prices paid for it, had the effect of bringing to market every available bale, with adulteration to such an extent that it was supposed only fresh legislation of a more stringent character would put a stop to it; hence the Act of 1863.

13. We are now in the fifth year of this Act, and all the excitement of former years passed away; yet so powerless is the Act to effect good that the Chamber was lately under the necessity of addressing Government, on the subject of various forms of adulteration carried on in Guzerat apparently with perfect impunity, and to suppress which the Inspectors appointed under the Cotton Act seem perfectly helpless.

14. There has been improvement in the cotton cultivation of this Presidency within the last few years, but it is attributable rather to the interest taken in the matter by Collectors and other servants of Government, than to the action of the Cotton Frauds' Act.

15. The Act has had no effect whatever on the extent of cultivation, a matter entirely regulated by the question of price.

16. This Chamber highly approves of Government doing all in its power for the improvement of cotton cultivation, but no Act on the subject is necessary; the appointment of a Cotton Commissioner with suitable assistants in each Presidency, with the countenance and support of Government given through its servants in the Revenue Department, from the Collector downwards, is sufficient for every useful purpose.

17. You are in error in supposing Mr. Rivett-Carnac is the Cotton Commissioner for this Presidency. Our Cotton Commissioner is Dr. Forbes, who was appointed to that office in 1863 by the Secretary of State. He was before that well known amongst us for his successful conduct of the Government experiments in the South Mahratta Country for the introduction of a species of cotton grown from New Orleans seed, and it is to his persevering energy that we are mainly indebted for the cotton grown in the Dharwar districts from acclimatized New Orleans seed, known as sawginned Dharwar.

18. Mr. Rivett-Carnac is the Cotton Commissioner for the Central Provinces, and the Berars, and was appointed in 1866 while Sir Richard Temple was still Chief Commissioner of the former. The Cotton Act does not apply to those provinces, but Mr. Carnac, without the aid of the Cotton Act, has been able to render important services to the cotton trade of this part of India.

19. This Chamber is opposed to a Cotton Frauds Act for India, and its views on the subject will be found at page 57 of the Chamber's Report for 1867-68.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

BENGAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Calcutta, 20th July 1869.

JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—If you will do me the favour to refer to this Chamber's Proceedings for the half-years ended 31st October 1867 and 30th April 1868, you will notice the action taken with regard to the application to the North Western Provinces of Bengal, and elsewhere of provisions similar to those of the Cotton Frauds' Act for your Presidency.

A draft of Act was submitted to the Council of the Governor General and published in August 1867, and the proposed measure was so far proceeded with as to be referred to and amended by the Select Committee of the Council; but objections having subsequently been raised to the necessity of legislative protection being specially extended to the cotton trade, its further movement was arrested.

The subject, however, has again been pressed upon the attention of this Chamber, and the Committee have been requested to re-submit it to Government; but before renewing the discussion they would be glad to possess the views entertained by your Chamber as to the practical results of the Act on the cotton trade of Bombay.

If in your judgment, after the experience of the working of that Act, the operation of the Law has been unattended with any material success, that its repeal would have no injurious effects on the trade, and that the suppression of fraud and the general amelioration of your chief staple of export are attributable to other causes, in that case this Chamber would consider it inexpedient to apply for a protective enactment provided your Chamber is prepared to advocate such repeal; but if, on the other hand, the Act has realised the object for which it was introduced, and its continued operation is considered essential as affording a salutary protection to the interests of your trade, this Chamber would, in such case, be inclined to the opinion that the benefits conferred by the Act on your side should be similarly secured for the Cotton trade of the Upper Provinces and other parts of the Bengal Presidency where cotton is cultivated: all the more, that many on this side are apprehensive that with the completion of Railway communication between Jubbulpore and Bombay, much rejected cotton will find its way here.

I am, &c.,

H. W. J. WOOD,
Secretary.

No. 179 of 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

28th July 1869.

H. W. J. WOOD, Esq.,

Secretary to Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your favour of 20th instant requesting the views of this Chamber on the working of the Cotton Frauds' Act in force in this Presidency, and as to the expediency of applying that Act to the rest of India.

We received some weeks ago a letter of a similar character from the Madras Chamber, and a copy of my reply to that letter, which I herewith enclose, will perhaps give you all the information necessary for your purpose.

I may add that since the letter was written the views of the members incline still more strongly against the continuance of the Act, and in all probability a general meeting of the Chamber will be held presently for the purpose of giving a public expression of opinion on the point as to whether the repeal of the Act should be moved for or not.

I remain &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

APPENDIX D.

IMPROVEMENT OF COTTON CULTIVATION.

To The Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Simla, October 21st 1868.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward for the inspection of your Chamber five specimens of cotton grown in the Andaman Islands. The samples are very small, but still I hope your Committee may feel inclined to encourage the efforts made by the Superintendent of Port Blair by offering an opinion on the cotton grown there.

2. I should be obliged by the return of the packets, which have been forwarded to me by the Secretary to the Government of India with a request that they may be returned.

I have, &c.,

HARRY RIVETT-CARNAC,

Cotton Commissioner for C. P. and Berars.

No. 177 of 1868.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

19th November 1868.

To The Cotton Commissioner, Central Provinces and the Berars, Nagpore.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ultimo, advising a packet of Cotton Samples from cotton grown in the Andaman Islands, on which you wish to be favoured with the opinion of the Chamber.

The packet came safely to hand, and the samples to which it gave cover were duly submitted to the Committee of Management for their opinion.

In reply I am now directed to state they consider it useless to attempt to give separate reports on the samples as they are all so badly ginned that the cotton is almost useless for spinning purposes.

It appears however that the cotton has been very soft and weak in the kuppas, and to have suffered considerable deterioration from change of soil and climate.

The Committee are unable to value the samples, but would suggest that if more of the cotton be available, samples should be sent in the kuppas, and then the quality and value could be correctly ascertained.

The samples are returned according to your request.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

To The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Dated Camp Nandora, 14th December 1868.

Sir,—I do myself the honour to forward three samples of cotton cultivated on a considerable scale in Government experimental fields in Khamgaon, and I would be much obliged if you would let me have your Chamber's opinion of them.

2. Along with them I send a fair sample of Jurree Cotton, picked from a Native's field, for comparison.

I have, &c.,

A. J. DUNLOP,

For Cotton Commissioner, Central Provinces and the Berars.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

7th January 1869.

To A. J. Dunlop, Esq.,

For Cotton Commissioner, Central Provinces and Berars,

Camp Nandora, or elsewhere.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th ultimo, together with the samples of cotton grown in Government experimental cotton fields in Khamgaon, as therein referred to.

The samples were duly submitted for the examination of the Committee of Management, and I have now the pleasure to annex herewith their report on the same.

You will observe from the terms of the report on each sample, that as regards the cotton grown from Dharwar acclimatised, and from New Orleans seed, the reports are not of an encouraging character; and the Committee, after a careful examination of the samples, are of opinion that the weak and somewhat exhausted nature of the staple, would only be more strikingly developed by further experiments with seed from the same varieties.

It is the opinion of this Chamber, based on knowledge derived from the inspection of a very large number of samples, that no exotic variety that can be grown in the Berars will equal in value and usefulness the indigenous varieties of the country known as Oomrawuttee and Hingunghat; and the Committee are of opinion that whatever can be done to maintain the present high character of these varieties, or if possible to improve it, would be one of the most important services that can be rendered to the cause of improved cotton cultivation in the districts of country under the Cotton Commissioner's superintendence.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

REPORT of the Bombay, Chamber of Commerce on the undermentioned Samples of Cotton received from the Cotton Commissioner for the Berars and Central Provinces.

Bombay, 7th January 1869.

Sample No. 1.

From Dharwar Acclimatised Seed grown at Khamgaon under Government superintendence.	Good colour, fair length of staple, fine and silky, but deficient in strength. This cotton is much weaker than Hingunghat and the better kinds of Oomrawuttee.

Sample No. 2.

From New Orleans Seed, grown at Khamgaon.	Dull in colour, leaf dark, staple similar to No. 1, but more wasty and weaker.

Sample No. 3.

From Hingunghat Seed, grown at Khamgaon.	Good colour, but slightly stained, staple fair strength but rather short, in these respects inferior to Hingunghat.
Jurree Cotton from Khamgaon.	Very good colour, white, bright and clean, but harsh and short in staple.

Dharwar, 3rd April 1869.

To JAMES TAYLOR Esq.,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you I have to day despatched to your address a banghy parcel containing six Samples of Dharwar Cotton, marked respectively **A B C D E** and **F**. I shall feel much obliged if you will kindly favour me with the Managing Committee's opinion on these samples, showing each sample separately. I beg to add that all are *bonâ fide* samples of Soucar's sawginned Dharwar Cotton offered for sale in the market of this season's produce. Begging the favour of an early reply.

I have, &c.,

W. WALTON,

Assistant Superintendent in Charge Dharwar Factory.

No. 86 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

15*th April* 1869.

W. WALTON, Esq.,

Assistant Superintendent in charge Dharwar Factory, Dharwar.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd instant, together with the samples of Cotton therein advised, which were duly submitted to the Committee of Management for their inspection.

In reply I have now the pleasure to annex herewith the report of the Committee on each sample, and remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

REPORT on the undermentioned Samples of Dharwar Sawginned Cotton, received from the Assistant Superintendent, Dharwar Factory, April 1869.

A Very good, white colour, well cleaned, but a little seed; staple rather wasty.

B Colour equal to sample **A**, perfectly clean, deficient in staple.

C Not so bright in colour as samples **A** and **B**, not so well cleaned, being rather leafy; staple rather longer that sample **B**, but wasty.

D Fair colour, badly ginned, mixed with seed and leaf, poor staple.

E Similar to **D**, but not so much leaf.

F Similar to **E** in every respect.

No. 29 OF 1869.

Bombay, 6th May 1869.

To. J. TAYLOR, ESQ.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—With reference to our conversation some days ago, when I informed you that I believed it to be Dr. Forbes' desire to submit certain samples of cotton for the opinion of the gentlemen appointed by the Chamber of Commerce for the purpose of examining the specimens of cotton offered at the late Exhibition at Broach, I have now the honour to forward to you for the information of the Chamber a memorandum since received from Dr. Forbes, from which it will be seen why the samples alluded to as well as others were not sent by him to that exhibition. For the same reason it is not now intended that any samples of the experimentally grown cotton referred to in the above memo. should form part of the exhibition specimens.

2. Dr. Forbes has requested me, however, to send to you the following samples, and would be glad to be favoured with the opinion of the Committee of the Chamber, or of a special committee thereon.

A. Pedigree native cotton, grown experimentally on account of Government at Hoongoond, Kulladghee.

B. Cotton produced at the same place from acclimatized New Orleans seed.

C. An ordinary market sample of American-Dharwar cotton of last season's growth, taken from a lot brought to be pressed at Colaba.

D. An ordinary market sample of Broach cotton of last season's growth, taken from a lot at the Colaba Presses.

3. Some more samples of experimentally grown cotton are expected by Dr. Forbes, and will be forwarded to you for the same purpose as soon as received.

I have the honour to be,

Sir, Your most obedient servant,

S. J. HARRISON,
Senior Cotton Inspector.

Veerumgaum, Ahmedabad,
23rd April 1869.

In reply to his communication dated 13th instant, but only now received, the Chief Inspector is informed that none of the samples of cotton he alludes to as being in the office are intended for exhibition at the Broach competition; they are merely small specimens of experimental cultivation in different localities.

No communication has been made to this Department by the conductors of the Broach Exhibition as to when, where, or how the cotton competition was to be carried out. We are consequently quite unprepared with adequate samples of the cotton grown experimentally in the several districts of Ahmedabad, Sholapore, Vehalludghee, Dharwar, &c., and this should be made known to the members of the Chamber as the reason why the Cotton Department is not represented at the competition.

As Dharwar "Saw-ginned" is now quoted at a higher price than any other cotton in the market, if the Chief Inspector can obtain a sample of it at the Cotton Green it might be entered, as, if it happens to be a fair average sample it will of course obtain the place which its position in the market accords to it.

G. F. FORBES,
Offg. Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Department.

No. 33 OF 1869.

Bombay, 12th May 1869.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

SIR,—As proposed in the last paragraph of my letter of the 6th instant, I have now the honour to forward to you the following samples of experimentally grown cotton:—

E. Cotton grown at Hoongoond, Dharwar, from Hingunghat seed.

F. Cotton grown at Dharwar from ditto—third season's pedigree.

G. Dharwar Native cotton from selected seed—third season.

H. Broach Native cotton from selected seed—second season, grown at Koosegul, Dharwar.

2. I beg to take this opportunity of correcting a mistake in the description of sample **A** forwarded to you on the 6th instant. The word "pedigree" should not have been applied to that sample, the cotton not having been grown, like samples **F**, **G**, and **H**, on the pedigree system.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

S. J. HARRISON,

Senior Cotton Inspector.

No. 129 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

27th May 1869.

G. F. FORBES, Esq.,

Cotton Commissioner Bombay Presidency, and

Inspector-in-Chief Cotton Frauds Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Mr. Harrison's, Senior Cotton Inspector, two letters, dated 6th and 12th instant respectively, forwarding sundry samples of cotton for examination and report by the Chamber of Commerce.

The letters, together with the samples which accompanied them, were duly submitted to the Committee of Management, and I have now the pleasure to forward herewith for your information the report of a Special Committee appointed to examine and report on the samples submitted.

I have the honour, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

27*th May* 1869.

REPORT by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on the undermentioned samples of Cotton, received from Dr. Forbes, Cotton Commissioner for the Presidency of Bombay.

A. Native Cotton grown experimentally on account of Government at Hoongoond, Kulladghee.	Coompta species ; good colour and clean fine silky staple ; fair length : a very great improvement on the Hoongoond cotton procurable in Bombay.
B. Cotton at the same place (**A**) from acclimatized New Orleans seed.	Fair colour and staple ; apparently a good kind of cotton ; destroyed by the saw-gin.
C. An ordinary market sample of American Dharwar Cotton of last season's growth, taken from a lot brought to be pressed at Colaba.	Similar to **B**, but a shade less wasty.
D. An ordinary market sample of Broach Cotton of last season's growth, taken from a lot at the Colaba Presses.	Dull in colour and leafy ; hardly a fair sample of the Broach Cotton of last season ; staple however superior to any of the foregoing samples, showing very little waste.
E. Cotton grown at Hoongoond, Dharwar, from Hingunghat seed.	Leafy and very wasty ; a very poor specimen of cotton ; such as no European firm would ship.
F. Cotton grown at Dharwar from ditto ; third season's pedigree.	Good colour ; fair staple, strong but irregular. The sample too small for a satisfactory report.
G. Dharwar Native Cotton from selected seed ; third season.	Very good cotton ; good colour ; fine silky staple for Native Cotton ; fair length ; very regular and free from waste. Similar kind of Cotton to sample **A**, but much superior.

H. Broach Native Cotton from selected seed; second season; grown at Koosegul, Dharwar.	Good colour, and fine silky strong staple; equal to the average of Broach Cotton, but not quite equal in length of staple to the best Broach.

On SAW-GINNING of DHARWAR COTTON.

Town Hall, Bombay, 25th January 1869.

To The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—I take the liberty of sending you the accompanying parcel containing Saws for Cotton Gins, as they will serve to illustrate one of the chief causes of damage done to the New Orleans cotton of the Dharwar District, a matter which I was specially deputed by Government to inquire into on my recent return to this country. The accompanying memorandum will explain the points which I wish to illustrate by the saws. It also suggests the remedy for the evil in question, and I shall feel obliged by your submitting the subject to the consideration of the Committee of the Chamber.

Yours faithfully,

G. F. FORBES,

Cotton Commissioner.

Memo. on Saw-Ginning of Dharwar Cotton.

The accompanying saws are taken from gins repaired in the Districts—one by a trained man from the Factory, and the other by one of the numbers of ignorant workmen, who perambulate the Districts to find employment upon Saw Gins. These two saws well represent the manner in which the article is dealt with by the respective parties; but in order that the effect of the operation of each upon the cotton should be clearly understood, it is necessary that I should explain the manner in which cotton is cleaned by the Saw Gin, and for this purpose I have enclosed a small quantity of seed cotton.

If a seed is held in one hand, and a flock of its fibres grasped about the centre (tightly so that none may slip) between the forefinger and thumb of the other hand, and drawn away, it will be found that the separation takes place at the weakest point of adhesion, which is that of the root of the fibre to the seed. If the tight grasp of the flock is still retained and an attempt made to break it by pulling the other half away in a straight line (and equally tightly grasped) it will be found that there will be some difficulty in doing so; and this is the theory upon which the Saw Gin was constructed. The arrangement being such as to enable the teeth of the saws to get hold of the fibre somewhat in the above manner, it was seen that

they could remove it entire. For the benefit of those who may not have seen a Gin, I have sent herewith a piece of sheet-iron which represents the range of grating forming the posterior portion of the feeding box called the "Hopper," into which the uncleaned cotton is thrown—the front and sides are of wood—it is of a triangular shape, open at the top, for the introduction of the kuppas, and narrowed below so as to admit of the seed only escaping; the fibre is cleaned from the saw, afterwards by a brush, which revolves rapidly. The saws thus ranged may be of any number according to the size of the machine, the Dharwar Saw Gin has 18; then operation upon the body of cotton put into the hopper causes it to revolve in the opposite direction to the saws—this is called the "Roll," and in order to keep it steadily moving the saws must be worked at a certain speed. It will be understood that the lower this speed is, the greater will be the safety to the fibre, as the strain upon it will be by so much diminished.

With the above illustration, I may now proceed to explain how the cotton of these districts is injured by the tampering of unskilled workmen with the saws. If the proper saw marked No. 1 is examined it will be seen that the term saw is so far a misnomer; it would be more properly described as a number of rounded hooks of bent wire, sharpened only at the point, which has no effect upon the fibre.

The saws for the Dharwar Factory are made very carefully upon this principle by an English Firm of eminence (Messrs. Spear and Jackson, of Sheffield), the only parties in possession of the original designs, and so long as they remain in order in the machine all goes well but in consequence of the quantity of dirt and rubbish gathered with the cotton, the teeth of the saws in time get disarranged and roughened, and they require resetting and smoothing.

This is one of the most delicate operations concerned in the repair of a Gin—though the Factory workmen have been carefully trained to it, it requires time and patience from the best workmen, but when it gets into the hands of an unskilled man, the work is got over very quickly, as will be seen by the sample sent. A few strokes of his file converts each tooth into a cutting blade or knife instead of a rounded hook, and when the machine is put to work, it will perform its proper quantity—which is all that the owner thinks of,—but with this difference; that more speed is required, which is accounted for by what I have explained as to the necessity of the roll being kept in motion —the sharpened tooth having a less hold or grip of the fibre requires more force or velocity to keep the roll moving, and a glance at the saw sent is all that is necessary to see how much the additional injury must be that it inflicts upon the staple. In the interests, both of the trade and the country, the suppression of this mischief is a measure which in my opinion requires legislative consideration, and I think it comes quite as much within the scope of the Cotton Frauds Act as any other measure provided for. It leads to wanton destruc-

tion of the produce by the action of parties who are aware of what they are doing, but are quite indifferent to the consequences, so long as they can make their living out of it, and to insist that they should in the first place qualify themselves to earn such livelihood would in my opinion be no stretch whatever of the objects and reasons of the Act. Every man who pursues this vocation should be required by the Act to obtain a certificate or license, which would not only be a guarantee of his qualification, but would also ensure his performing his work in a satisfactory manner, as otherwise it would be traced to him. If, for the preservation of the trade, the law can tell a man that he must attend to the quality of cotton he puts into a bale—that it must neither have mixed varieties nor dirt—it can also say that he must not knowingly allow it to be cut up into something like snuff, and then offered for sale as good cotton.

In recommending this measure to the consideration of the Legislative Council, I would beg to represent that it is one of a purely local character, this being the only part of India in which the saw gin is in use (on account of the American cotton, for which no other suitable machine has yet been discovered), and it would only be necessary to make the clause applicable to the saw gin.

G. F. FORBES.

Dharwar Districts, May 1868.

COTTON EXPERIMENTS IN GUZERAT.

Poona, 17th September 1869.

The undersigned presents compliments to the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, and begs to forward the accompanying copy of the report of the Superintendent of Cotton Experiments in Guzerat, as the details given of the experiments in progress during the current season at Surat and Broach may be of interest to the Chamber.

G. F. FORBES,
Cotton Commissioner.

To JAMES TAYLOR, ESQ.,
Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

No. 64 OF 1869.

To THE COTTON COMMISSIONER, BOMBAY.

Broach, 28th August 1869.

SIR,—Having completed the sowing of the coming season's crop, I do myself the honour of forwarding to you a sketch of the various arrangements made.

2. A plan is forwarded herewith which I trust will aid you in following out the descriptions, as the affair is perhaps somewhat complicated. I am hopeful, however that the conditions under which the sowings are made and the order in which they are arranged will yield at least some fresh items of information concerning the acclimatization of foreign kinds of cotton, or the possibility of so improving the native variety by cultivation and otherwise as to make it almost equal both in quality and quantity of yield to the fine American kinds, which are so fatally affected by the soil, climate, or other influences bearing on Indian cultivation.

3. Of the three districts chosen for this year's work the greatest extent of land is in the Broach talooka ; the acreage of the respective farms is as follows :—

Broach	141	Beegas.
Surat	88	,,
Dhow	25	,,
	254	,,

4. The land in the neighbourhood of Broach is pretty uniformly of a deep black soil ; the Surat land is partially black, the portion towards the river being of a light red colour, with an admixture of sand ; the small piece at Dhow is sandy throughout.

5. In plantations Nos. **I. B C D E, III. F G H K L** and **M N O P R** the soils are of a distinct type each from the other, and the sowings are so arranged as that each variety of seed will get to each kind of soil, the plots being likewise nearly of the same size (about 5 beegas), which will enable us to compare the products accurately one with the other.

6. You will perhaps remember that it was about the end of the rains last year that the bulk of our exotics succumbed. At the time I considered this severe check to be the result of the fierce rays of the sun pouring down upon the plants in a weakened condition, or of a cutting night wind, which sometimes blows during that season. With the view of testing the accuracy of these ideas, I have sown pieces of all the different exotics in double lines alternate with native; this is shown in No. **III. E** where Sea Island is the exotic. **A** and **B** of the farm are similarly sown with New Orleans and Egyptian respectively. In farm **II.**, **B C D** and **E** are taken up with this experiment ; the above are sown somewhat close to each other, so that in the event of the exotics prospering the native can be entirely pulled up to make space for the other, but should the exotic fail then the native will grow up, and having plenty of room for lateral growth and a free circulation of air would most likely produce some spendid pods for Pedigree work.

7. In farm **I, F H K L M** from the hybridizing experiment, and the kind from which the hybrids are desired, are sown mixed, the

pieces being either at a distance from each other or having an intervening field of Indigenous, so as to prevent the bees and other insects carrying foreign pollen and spoiling the cross; thus being left entirely to insect agency each field will produce seed of a distinct kind or class of kinds; for example of the produce of **F** each seed will be either pure Indigenous, pure Sea Island or a hybrid containing certain proportion of the nature of both of its parents, some seeds will be more indigenous than exotic and vice versâ. The seed from each piece being sown separately, when it grows up it will be evident from inspection of the leaf what plants are indigenous and what exotic, the remainder would be hybrids of different shades. From the individuals which are approved of, seeds could then be be saved for sowing the following year.

8. Should the two kinds forming any mixed crop come to maturity exactly at the same time, there may be a chance in mixing, but this will not be of much importance, the seeds being the main consideration.

9. Fields 1 and 4 at Vegalpoor contain each a well, so that, if desired, a small piece can be irrigated.

10. Dhow farm **E** is sown with the finest selected seeds we had from last year. Field 2 contains a patch each of three exotics —and field 1 is occupied by the plants of last year which are now growing very strong, and would no doubt with careful pruning and judicious management produce a heavy crop. On account of the difficulty and time occupied in going to and from the place, I was obliged to leave this in the hands of a watchman whom I engaged there to attend to the work, but finding that he entirely neglected his duty, and even resumed his usual occupation of fishing so soon as I left the place, I sent him away and in his stead stationed a man in Surat, who will go down frequently and assist the patel in putting things straight. As the cultivation of this ten beegas (old plants) is in my own hands I shall require to draw a small sum bye and bye to pay for the cleaning which is now being done; once weeding will be sufficient.

11. The parties who own the land upon that part, as I reported to you before, wished to try a sowing on their own account provided seed and cultural instructions were supplied to them; after receiving your instructions to do so I gave them seeds as follows:—

Indigenous Selected	75 lbs.
Hingunghaut	50 „
New Orleans	50 „
Sea Island	50 „
Egyptian	25 „
Total	250 lbs.

This at the rate of 5 lbs. per beega will sow an area of 50 beegas. These seeds were not sown when I was at Dhow about the middle of the month, but I advised that they should be sown without delay.

12. It will appear that the main points upon which the present year's work will be expected to furnish information are the results of locality and ordinary cultivation on foreign seeds, and the improvement (if any) of the crop produced from the carefully selected bolls of last year.

13. So far as I am able to judge from last year's experience, I am satisfied that were the resources of the land properly worked out the yield would be something like one hundred per cent. more than at present; the means of accomplishing this result will be found out only by giving the subject undivided attention and daily personal superintendence, throughout one season or more.

14. The implements in present use amongst the native farmers are of the most wretched description, and could easily be improved. English implements are quite useless on account of their weight, but a few articles such as ploughs, drill grubbers, sowing drills, &c. could be made, I think, containing the principle of the English tool with the lightness of the native.

15. The current native plough is objectionable, not so much on account of its not tilling deep, as its inability to mould a furrow, in other words to turn the surface down and bring the under soil up. It merely stirs up the land, and leaves weeds or other rubbish on the surface, when it grows and chokes the crop unless removed. Removing it involves too much labour for the villager, indeed could all such rubbish be ploughed in for a few years, it would enrich the land and perhaps so disintegrate it as to prevent the cracking which is so injurious to crops in deep black soil.

16. The reason given by the ryots for not manuring the land is that it is then so much more difficult to keep clean, and such is the case, but the reason is simply that the manure is left scattered over the surface of their yards for months together—instead of being carefully prepared by being turned up in heap for putrifactive fermentation; thus grain, jowaree, grass and other seed for the bullocks' feed spring up immediately on the manure being applied to the land.

17. Part of field 1, on the Alli farm, had a surface dressing of village sweepings. On that part the plants are now about one foot four inches high, while the height of those on the undressed portion is not more than nine inches.

18. The Exotic, more especially the Sea Island, made a beautiful start, and are still quite in advance of the others, but it is questionable whether they will go on, as a sudden change of temperature affects them visibly, and they have yet to get over that knotty

time above-mentioned, when they are subjected to several consecutive days of harsh rain, succeeded by as many of burning sunshine, which puts even the hardy native plant to the test.

19. The seeds of two kinds of tobacco, and the packet *hibidevis* forwarded from your office came to hand on the 30th ultimo. I made a small sowing of each at once, and several of the logwoods have already germinated, and their progress will be reported from time to time.

I have the honour, &c.,

(Signed) ALEX. STORMONT,
Superintendent of Cotton Experiments.

APPENDIX E.

COTTON SAMPLES AT THE BROACH EXHIBITION.

Surat Collector's Camp,
Salej, 13th March 1869.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

Sir,—Adverting to paragraph 31 of my Report on the Broach Exhibition, a copy of which I now forward by book post, I have the honour to inquire whether the Chamber of Commerce will do the Exhibition Committee the favour of nominating two or three European and Native gentlemen to join, with Messrs. Greaves and Arthur, a jury to adjudicate the prizes for exotic and indigenous cotton, and requesting them to arrange a meeting with those gentlemen at their mutual convenience. As the extensive experiments with exotic cotton have met with a considerable measure of success, and the prizes comprise twenty medals offered by the Manchester Cotton Supply Association (*vide* page 14 of Appendix to my report), the occasion appears of sufficient importance to warrant my troubling the Chamber.

I have, &c.,
T. C. HOPE, Collector,
and Vice-President, B. E.

No. 72 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
18*th March* 1869.

T. C. Hope, Esq.;
Collector of Surat.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 13th instant, together with copy of your report on the Broach Exhibition.

In reply I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber to state that it would afford them much pleasure to invite two or three gentlemen to assist as a jury with the gentlemen you mention, and to adjudicate the prizes for exotic and indigenous cotton; but before doing so I am desired to request you will be kind enough to say where and at what time the jury are to meet.

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

No. 84 of 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

14th April 1869.

T. C. HOPE, Esq.,

Collector of Surat.

SIR,—Adverting to former correspondence, I have now the honour to inform you that the samples of Cotton prepared for the Broach Exhibition have been forwarded by Mr. Greaves from Broach and are now placed in the Chamber's Office; and I have to request you will be good enough to send me the necessary details regarding the various samples, together with all particulars on the subject of the prizes to be awarded, that the Committee of Management of the Chamber may arrange for a meeting of judges, when the samples may be reported on and the prizes awarded in conformity with the views or instructions of the donors.

The Committee will also be glad to be informed whether you wish any gentlemen to attend on the part of the Managing Committee of the Broach Exhibition, and if so to mention their names, and the time when it would be most convenient for them that the meeting for the purpose of awarding the prizes &c. should take place. Mr. Hewett, the Cotton Inspector, called here and expressed a wish to be present on the occasion.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Camp Khergaum, 23rd April 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I have to apologize for not having earlier replied to your letter of the 14th. I did not do so because I was under the impression that you would almost immediately after the despatch of your letter have received complete explanations from Mr. Carrol, who was deputed on purpose, and Mr. Hewett, who followed him. I have just learned from the former, however, that you still await a letter from me, and therefore hasten to say that the number and conditions of the prizes are all stated in the Prize List appended to my report, and that Messrs. Hewett and Carrol can point out to you the samples of each variety from each Talooka.

2. I also concluded that you would have heard from Mr. Greaves that as he and Mr. Cotton could not attend, I thought the nominees of the Chamber alone might form the jury. As he has now gone to Bombay any difficulty on that score will have been

removed. Messrs. Carrol and Hewett, or the former only, will attend for the purpose of giving the particulars of the samples, but not be members of the jury.

3. I shall be glad to receive the award of the jury as soon as may be convenient. With many thanks for the trouble taken.

I have, &c.,

T. C. HOPE, Collector.

No. 98 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

T. C. HOPE, Esq., 1*st May* 1869.
Collector of Surat.

SIR,—Adverting to your letter of the 23rd ultimo I have to inform you that a meeting of the Committee appointed to adjudicate the prizes for the exotic and indigenous cotton exhibited at Broach, and forwarded to Bombay for examination and report, was held at the Chamber's Office on Thursday, the 22nd idem, and I have now the honour to transmit, for your information, the report of the Committee, herewith, duly signed by all the Members.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

22*nd April* 1869.

On the invitation of the Collector of Surat and the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce, the undermentioned gentlemen assembled this day at the Offices of the Chamber as a Committee to adjudicate the prizes for the specimens of exotic and indigenous cotton shown at the Broach Exhibition in December last, the samples having been forwarded from Broach to Bombay for this purpose :—

The Hon. A. H. Campbell, of the Firm of Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, & Co.
J. A. Anderson, Esquire, ,, ,, ,, Finlay, Clark Co.
R. E. Bickerdike, Esquire, ,, ,, ,, Knoop and Co.
James Greaves, Esquire, Broach.
R. H. Cheetham, Esquire, ditto.
James Taylor, Esquire, Secretary.

Mr. E. B. Carrol, Assistant Cotton Inspector in Guzerat, was also present.

Report on samples.

Cotton from New Orleans seed, grown in Chicklee Talooka, Surat Collectorate.	This was the best sample of cotton grown from New Orleans seed. No. 1 prize, Rs. 50, awarded.
Cotton grown from Egyptian seed at Ahmode, Broach Sub-Collectorate.	The best sample of cotton grown from Egyptian seed. No. 2 prize, Rs. 50, awarded.
Cotton grown from Hingunghat seed, at Broach.	The best sample of cotton from Hingunghat seed. No. 3 prize, Rs. 40, awarded.
1 { Samples from Sea Island seed, grown at Jambuseer. / Do. at Broach. } Equal.	These are considered the best in the order in which they are numbered, but as neither sample was of the required quantity, no prize can be awarded.
2. Ahmode (in green wrapper.)	
3. Do. (in grey do.)	
Sample of cotton from Peruvian seed, grown at Broach.	This was the only sample from Peruvian seed shown; it was not considered worthy of a prize as regards quality, and did not fulfil the required condition in respect of quantity.
Indigenous Cotton :—	
Equal { Jambuseer. / Broach.	Of these the sample from Chicklee Talooka was the best sample shown. Prize, Rs. 50, and a silver medal, awarded.
Chicklee Talooka, Broach Sub-Collectorate.	
Sample of common Bunnee cotton, Sootala, Berar.	The best sample of Bunnee cotton and of Berar Indigenous common that was shown, but none of the Berar samples were satisfactory specimens of the season's growth. No prize.
Khandeish cotton, from Hingunghat seed.	Two samples exhibited, apparently not cleaned in the usual manner; highly satisfactory as regards colour and cleanliness, but very short in staple. No prize.

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

The Committee in awarding the prizes and reporting on the samples of cotton that have been submitted, desire to state that, in

their opinion—the prizes offered by the Manchester Cotton Supply Association should be reserved till next season. The cotton crop of 1868-69 suffered great damage from the floods in Guzerat, during the monsoon season of last year, and the samples exhibited were in no respect a fair representation of the quality of the indigenous cotton that can be produced in the various collectorates of that province,—while the fact that most of the samples were shown by employés of the Cotton Department and not by the ryots, deprived them of much of their value in a commercial point of view.

The Committee have to add that they were impressed with the inferiority of the samples laid before them as representing the produce generally of the Cotton districts of Western India.

In reference to the prizes proposed to be given for cotton experiments in Guzerat or elsewhere, with exotic seed—the Committee are of opinion that they would be more usefully bestowed if awarded for improvements in connection with the production of the indigenous varieties.

The Committee believe that all experiments that have been made in this part of India with exotic seed, other than mere garden experiments, have been entire failures, except in the case of Dharwar. In conclusion the Committee desire to point out that, in their opinion, the month of December is too early a period in the season for an Exhibition of which samples of our cotton cultivation are to form an important part—as proper samples cannot be sent forward from some of the districts of production for nearly two months later—say the end of February or beginning of March.

(Signed) A. H. CAMPBELL,
„ J. A. ANDERSON,
„ R. E. BICKERDIKE,
„ JAMES GREAVES,
„ R. H. CHEETHAM,
JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary Chamber of Commerce.

No. 965 OF 1869.

Surat Collector's Office,
Camp Teethul, 6th May 1869.

To THE SECRETARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BOMBAY.

SIR,—I have had the honour to receive your letter of the 1st instant, and beg that you will communicate to the Chamber and the gentlemen who were good enough to act on the Committee my best acknowledgments for the trouble they have taken.

2. The Report of the Committee will be very valuable in a general point of view, and the suggestions in it shall have full attention in this year's operations. It is, however, scarcely sufficiently detailed to afford all the information I require with the view of judging both what individuals have been fairly successful in their efforts, and what soils and processes of cultivation may again this year be resorted to with a reasonable prospect of good results.

3. For these purposes it would be satisfactory to have an opinion on each sample, noting any peculiarity in it, and stating its market price.

4. I feel that I can hardly ask the Chamber to form another Committee, but perhaps they would not object to obtain for me the information I desire from a jury of Brokers or Native Merchants, acting under their supervision.

5. Should they be able to oblige me in this way, I would send down a clerk to make a classified list of all the samples, and to take charge of them and to bring them here when done with.

I have, &c.,

T. C. HOPE,

Collector.

No. 116 of 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER COMMERCE,

12th May 1869.

T. C. HOPE, Esq.,

Collector of Surat.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th instant, and in reply I am to express the regret of the Committee that they are now unable to meet your wishes in the matter of sending you a detailed report with information such as you ask for regarding each sample of cotton sent down for examination.

If instructions of the nature indicated in your letter under acknowledgment had been given, together with a detailed list of the samples giving the varied information desiderated, the Committee would have been happy to give every attention to the same. Unfortunately it is now too late, as all the samples after the late examination have been so huddled together and mixed up, that it is utterly impossible to distinguish and separate them for the purpose mentioned.

In the absence of any list, which you may remember I wrote for, it was difficult for the Committee to arrange the samples carefully for the purpose of examining, reporting, and adjucating the prizes; and when this duty was performed it was understood from the tenor of your former letters, and from what was stated by Mr. Greaves, that all had been done that was required.

The Committee are of opinion that any jury of "Brokers or Native Merchants" would have been useless for the performance of the duty to which you refer.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

APPENDIX F.

COTTON STATISTICS.

THE BOMBAY COTTON CROP.

ABSTRACT of information regarding the Cotton Crop of the Bombay Presidency for the year 1868-69, *published in accordance with the orders of Government.*

Zilla.	Expected Crop in Candies of 784 lbs. each of clean Cotton.	Remarks made by Collectors.	Remarks by Cotton Commissioner.
	Candies. lbs.		
KHANDEISH	20,644 683	The season has been one of the most unfavourable known in Khandeish for many years. Not only will the probable out-turn of cotton be less by nearly one-half than that last of year, but the staple is, I fear, very inferior compared with that of last year's crop. This our best judges attribute simply and solely to the want of moisture, and not to any deterioration of the cotton itself.	The estimate of expected crop herein stated will probably prove very nearly correct. In the figured return accompanying the remarks, the anticipated out-turn is put down at 20,644 candies 683 lbs., the yield of last year being shown 40,212 candies 641 lbs., and the yield per acre for the present season is put down at 38 lbs. clean cotton, whereas last year it was 68 lbs. per acre.
SHOLAPORE	3,270 32	The general prospects of the season were not such as could have been wished, almost all the cotton crops having failed owing to the absence of the seasonable fall of rain.	In contrasting the figured return from this Collectorate with that of the preceding season, I find a decrease of produce anticipated to the extent of about thirty per cent.

Zilla.	Expected Crop in Candies of 784 lbs. each of clean Cotton.	Remarks made by Collectors.	Remarks by Cotton Commissioner.
	Candies. lbs.		
KULLADGHEE ..	10,519 530	The general prospects of the cotton season are middling.	In this Collectorate the return furnished shows that the area of land cultivated with cotton last season was 68 per cent. in excess of that of the preceding year. But the total of the expected out-turn is put down at 37 per cent. below that of the former; the respective figures are as follows :— Candies. lbs. Total crop of 1867-68 .. 14,113 279 Expected crop of 1868-69. 10,519 535
AHMEDNUGGUR..	376 374	There has been a large decrease in the extent of land cultivated with cotton this year, and the yield from that cultivated is small. This is owing chiefly to the absence of the late rains. All the Mamlutdars report that the plants came up well, but for want of rain did not thrive, and the yield has been middling. With regard to the exotic cotton (Hingunghat) sown in the Sheagaom Talooka, the Mamlutdar reports that for want of rain the seed was not sown	The cotton cultivation of this Collectorate is not extensive, but in contrasting the respective returns, the anticipated supply of the current season does not amount to half the quantity shown as realised last year.

			in many places, and where sown did not germinate. In the village of Saumgaom 2 acres were sown with the seed and twice watered with water from a well; the crop on these 2 acres has been midding and the yield will, it is estimated, be about 80 lbs. to the acre.	
SATTARA	7,529	734	The falling-off in the expected crop is attributed to the deficient fall of rain in the months of October and November 1868.	On contrasting the figures I find that the "falling-off" alluded to amounts to 29 per cent. of the realised return of last year. But I fear there must be some mistake in both returns, as the yield of clean cotton in 1867-68 is given at 123 lbs. per acre, and that of the present season at 106 lbs. Even half of either of these amounts would be a good crop, and more than the average yield of native cotton in many of our best Collectorates.
BELGAUM.....	2,246	567	Owing to the want of sufficient rain this year the cotton crops generally are not so good as might be expected. In Belgaum and Sumpgaom Talookas the crops appear good. In Beedee, where the climate is unfavourable to the growth the cultivation was limited to 41 acres only. In Chikodee, Purusghur, and Gokak, the crops have considerably suffered for want of timely and sufficient rain, and in Uthnee those	Here there is a decrease shown by figures of 1,241 acres of cotton cultivation, as contrasted with the area of the preceding year, but there is also a comparative increase of crop anticipated to the extent of 337 candies 87 lbs. On calculating the return per acre, from the figures given, I find that in the former season it amounts to only 11 lbs., and in the present one only to 14 lbs. of clean

Zilla.	Expected Crop in Candies of 784 lbs. each of clean Cotton.		Remarks made by Collectors.	Remarks by Cotton Commissioner.
	Candies.	lbs.		
			on the banks of the Krishna only appear healthy and promising. The cultivation of exotic cotton in all the Talookas, with the exception of Belgaum and Beedee, extended to 3,097 acres. The crop came up well at first, but afterwards appeared stunted and dried in many places, from want of sufficient moisture.	cotton, both of which must be much below the mark.
DHARWAR.....	43,817	50	Since my last report blight has in some cases appeared to a partial extent; and the want of westerly breezes has deprived the District of the usual fall of dew, and the crops in far too many portions of the District are stunted; and it is feared this circumstance will greatly affect the out-turn.	The figured return here shows an increase of 30,000 acres over the cotton cultivation of the preceding season, and an expected increase of crop to the extent of 5,416 candies. I regret, however, to say that I have since then had unfavourable reports which I shall notice below.
POONA	3,520	673	The cotton crops which have been lately gathered are said to have been but moderately good. In some parts in the Indapoor Talookas, viz. to the north of the Town of Indapoor and on the banks of the river Bheema, and some villages near, the crops were fair, while in	In this Collectorate the return furnished shows a decrease of cotton cultivation amounting to 9,330 acres below that of last year, and it is expected accordingly that the crop will be less by 1,950 candies 277 lbs.; but the return of the two seasons also exhibit respectively a

			other parts they were more or less a failure.	yield of 183 and 195 lbs. of clean clean cotton per acre, which, as stated with regard to Sattara, is I fear a mistake.
SURAT	10,175	705	The season was on the whole favourable to the cotton crops, and it is expected that in some of the Talookas of this Collectorate the produce will be superior to that of the last year. In several Talookas the crops were injured owing to scanty rain. The exotic seed has suffered from insufficiency of rain, but the result will be much better than that of the last experiment.	In this Collectorate the return shows a decrease of cultivation below the preceding season of 4,634 acres, and the consequent increase anticipated as regards the return amounts to 1,104 candies 81 lbs.; the expected yield per acre this season is put down at 86 lbs. of clean cotton, that of the preceding year was 91 lbs.
BROACH.....	7,033	226	The cotton crops which have come under my observation whilst lately travelling about the districts are tolerably good, those in the Broach Talooka more especially are good, and as far as that Talooka is concerned I think an out-turn of 14 annas in the Rupee will be obtained. Reports have reached me that the cotton crops in the sea-coast villages of the Jumboosur, Ahmode, and Wagra Talookas, and more specially in the latter, have suffered greatly for want rain towards the end of the rainy season, and I am informed that not more than 7 or 8 annas in the Rupee will be realised.	In this Collectorate also the figured return exhibits a decrease of the area of cotton cultivation as contrasted with the preceding season, amounting to 31,967 acres; and there is a consequent deficiency anticipated of the gross return as compared with last year of 11,591 candies 258 lbs.

Zilla.	Expected Crop in Candies of 784 lbs. each of clean Cotton.	Remarks made by Collectors.	Remarks by Cotton Commissioner.
	Candies. lbs.		
AHMEDABAD....	....	The cultivation of cotton in this zillah in the year under report has been less by 46,345 acres than the last year. The chief cause of the decrease is attributed to the scarcity of rain in the early part of the season, and the subsequent heavy rain, which caused the crops to be destroyed through excessive moisture, and washed away to a considerable extent,—the crops on high lands that were saved from the heavy rain suffered much, and have become of weaker staple.	I have not been furnished with the usual figured returns from this Collectorate, and I am therefore unable to contrast the expected results with those of the preceding season.
KAIRA	1,080 464	I hear from the Talooka Officers that in consequence of the irregularity in the fall of rain during the last monsoon, and especially owing to the floods in August followed by a complete cessation of rain after the 16th of that month, the yield of cotton will be below the average, and is roughly calculated to produce at the rate of somewhat below 12 annas in the Rupee. The quality of the staple will also be inferior to that of last year.	This Collectorate furnishes only a limited supply of cotton; the figured return shows a decrease in cultivation of 2,674 acres, and it is anticipated that the supply will be 278 candies short of that of the preceding year.

			Native States.
18 ap	MAHEE KANTA..	213	40 The estimated increase in the number of acres of cotton cultivation in 1868-69 as compared with 1867-68 is to be accounted for by the Gorassur Talooka returns having been incorporated in this return, and not in those of the Kaira Collector, in which, till now, this Talooka has been included.
	REWA KANTA ..	838	0 Cotton is represented to be generally grown with Rice, Bajree, Toor and other grain crops, and not separately. The cotton crops this year appear to be unfavourable.
	KOLAPORE AND S. M. COUNTRY	5,388	452 It appears that the cotton crop in this principality has generally much suffered from want of rain during the latter period of the season; no rain having fallen, as usual in October; consequently the crop is considered to be a deficient one.
	AKULKOTE	140	346 The prospect of the crop appears to be middling.

The object of publishing this Return is to supply the trade with as near an estimate as possible of the probable yield of the current season's crop.

The remarks of the Collectors regarding almost the whole of the districts will show how unfavourable the season has generally been.

In the preceding Return, published in December last, I noticed the very encouraging reports then reaching me with respect to the cotton crop in the Dharwar districts. At that time, it gave promise of being an abundant one and of superior quality. But since then it has suffered severely from a cause, which is also purely climatic, viz., the unseasonable prevalence of a dry and scorching easterly wind. I have before now had occasion to notice and report upon partial failures of the cotton crop from this cause, but in this instance it appears to have been general, and to have prevailed over the whole district. Its sudden and injurious effect upon the strongest cotton plants is more than can be accounted for by mere want of moisture, or the dryness of the wind; it would appear as if it carried with it some other blighting influence. It is worthy of notice that the acclimatized American cotton is reported as suffering less, and resisting the influence of the blight better, than the indigenous cotton of the country, which shows how firmly and favourably the American plant has taken to the soil and climate of those districts.

The prospects of the out-turn from Goozerat are better than they were when the last report was published. More especially as regards the Collectorates of Surat and Broach, each of which will I believe be found to yield nearly an average crop. I observed that the cotton crop along the line traversed by the Railway was not equal to the general average elsewhere, and this may have caused unfavourable anticipations. In many parts of the interior I saw as fine fields of cotton as could possibly be desired; and it was singular that this was the case in some localities where the wheat and jowaree crops had failed almost to famine standard.

The general tenor of the "remarks by the Collectors" would lead to the conclusion that the crop this season will not be more than half an average one, but from what I have myself seen, and from carefully considering all the information obtained from other sources, I am inclined to take a more favourable view of the question, and to estimate the deficiency at not more than twenty-five per cent. as contrasted with the crop of last season, the out-turn of which amounted to about twelve hundred and fifty thousand bales for export.

G. F. FORBES,

Cotton Commissioner.

Bombay, 16th February 1869.

POSTSCRIPT.—Since forwarding the above to the press, a further report on the Dharwar Crop has just reached me. It dates up to to the 13th instant.

A favourable change in the weather was reviving the plants. The estimate of loss of quantity in the American variety is given at twenty per cent. less crop than the plants promised a month ago. But the quality of the staple is also very materially affected, as the "blight" caught the plants just at the time that the fibre was maturing in the bolls; this latter is looked upon as the worst evil of the two.

The Native plant has suffered more severely; the estimated loss is here given at 50 per cent., but notwithstanding the above, owing to the increase in cultivation, the whole crop of these Districts will be considerably in excess of that obtained from them last year.

G. F. FORBES.

Camp Khangaon, in Berar,
18th June 1869.

To THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—As the season has now come to a close, I have the honour to forward, for the information of your Chamber, a Statement showing the Exports towards Bombay of the Cotton crop of the Central Provinces and the Berars, from the month of October last up to date.

2. As you have already been informed, the traffic arrangements of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company have so much improved, and are now so thoroughly satisfactory, that the system of cotton-yards has, with the sanction of Government, been discontinued. The figures now given have been supplied by the Traffic Department of the Railway Company, and, as regards the number of bales, half-pressed bales, and dokras carried down to Bombay, may be accepted as perfectly accurate, whilst the method by which the mass has been reduced into Bombay candies will be found fully explained in a later paragraph. The closing of the cotton-yards, and the withdrawal of the Government Registering Establishment, has prevented my checking these returns, as heretofore, by the statistics collected by the cotton-yard clerks; but inquiries made in several quarters confirm the views expressed above of their correctness and of the large quantity of cotton that has this season found its way to Bombay from these Provinces.

3. Before considering the export figures, it may be convenient to refer to the state of the cultivation in the Central Provinces and the Berars, on which the exports must mainly depend, and a return showing the area under cotton cultivation during the season 1868-69

as compared with 1867-68, is therefore appended. As stated early in the season, the area under cultivation has not undergone any marked change, and is still nearly at the figure at which it has now been for several years, and at which it is likely to remain for some time to come. For, save under extraordinary circumstances, the cultivation is not likely to receive any appreciable extension. In the Wurdah Valley, where the plant is most successful, the crop still takes up one-half of the land sown for the autumn harvest, whilst in the valley of the Poornah 32 per cent. of the cultivated area is devoted to cotton. When it is remembered that an area at least equal to that sown with cotton, must be reserved for other produce, in order to admit of the rotation of crops, it will be understood that the cultivation does not admit of much extension in this quarter. On the other hand, the high prices have given the Koonbees such confidence in the crop, and the plant is so admirably adapted to the soil and climate, and is so easily managed, that there is, I believe, every prospect of the area under cotton cultivation remaining steady at the present high figure. Since my last report there has been a redivision of the administrative Districts in the Berars, which has somewhat complicated the Return now appended.

4. The Railway figures for the season stand as follows. To them has been added the exports by road; for, as you are aware, a small quantity of cotton still finds its way in carts from the Berar country through Ahmednuggur and the adjacent Districts, where it is taken up for local consumption, or forwarded to Panwell.

Exports of Central Provinces and Berar Cotton towards Bombay during the Season 1868-69.

	Full-pressed Bales.	Half-pressed Bales.	Dokras.
By Railway	70,501	177,775	61,325
By Road	....	....	13,270
Total....	70,501	177,775	74,595

And this quantity of cotton may be taken, according to the following calculation, to represent about 273,000 bales, or 136,500 Bombay candies. The up-country full-pressed bale, as is well known, generally contains rather less cotton than the half-candy, but this season the presses at Khangaon have succeeded in turning out large quantities of bales, each containing 3½ cwt. of cotton net; and in making the calculation, these bales have been allowed the full rank of Bombay "*half-candies.*" This may be rather above the mark, but any excess is perhaps more than counterbalanced by the estimate of the half-pressed cotton

STATEMENT showing the Area under Cotton cultivation in the Central Provinces and the Berars during the Seasons 1867-68 *and* 1868-69.

District.	1868-69.	1867-68.	
Central Provinces.	Acres.	Acres.	
Nagpore	63,450	48,350	
Bhundara	Nil.	35	
Chanda	39,169	35,000	
Wurdah	176,303	158,046	
Jubbulpore	23,899	32,556	
Saugor	26,465	33,197	
Dumoh	14,100	15,500	
Seonee	5,451	5,107	
Mundla	1,152	1,362	
Hoshungabad	10,538	3,089	
Khindwarrah	21,475	7,500	
Baitool	537	7,453	
Nursingpore	39,908	32,102	
Nimar	16,271	24,961	
Raepore	26,886	10,925	
Sumbulpore	79,540	90,000	
Belaspore	63,371	46,777	
Godavery	402	560	
Total	618,917	552,520	Increase, acres 66,397
The Berars.			
Oomraotee	182,183	418,353	
Ellichpore	309,172	....	
Woon	131,161	175,800	
Akola	406,862	550,571	
Booldana	195,123	....	
Bassein	62,241	109,828	
Total	1,316,742	1,254,552	Increase, acres 32,190

Last season the presses in use were of the small "Hassard" pattern, and in working out the figures of the exports three half-pressed bales were taken to the candy. This year, native traders have introduced into the Berars a considerable number of half-presses, which turn out bales weighing as much as 5 cwt. The smaller presses are, however, still in use, and in striking an average the 177,775 half-pressed bales may not unfairly be taken to represent a like number of Bombay bales of half a candy each. Some of my friends, who have been consulted on the subject, consider that this estimate is below the mark; and if this view be correct, then the allowance above made in favour of the full-pressed bale will balance the calculation. As usual, three dokras have been taken to the bale, or six to the candy.

The Exports then stand thus:—

Full-pressed bales		70,501
Half-pressed bales		177,775
Dokras	74,595 =	24,865
	3	
Bales		273,141

It may, perhaps, be thought that instead of the above calculation, which cannot pretend to be perfectly accurate, a more satisfactory estimate might have been framed by taking the gross weight shown in the Railway returns and making a certain allowance for tare. But as, at many of the stations, cotton pays at the "waggon rate,"* the figures, although they show the number of maunds *paid for*, do not accurately represent the quantity of cotton exported. On the other hand, for obvious reasons, the number of bales loaded on the waggons is entered with perfect accuracy, and the totals can be thoroughly trusted in the above estimate, which will, I believe, for all practical purposes, be considered sufficiently correct.

5. The annexed Statement A shows the exports from the Central Provinces and the Berars towards Bombay, during the last three years, and the figures suggest the following remarks:—

The first and most noticeable point is the manner in which the exports have recovered themselves this season. In 1866-67 these Provinces exported 276,000 bales, which may be regarded as rather above the average. Last season, on account of the exceptional monsoon, but 220,000 bales reached Bombay. This year the figures have again risen to 270,000 bales.

* When cotton is badly packed, as, for instance, in the case of many of the so-called half-pressed bales, a waggon-rate is charged. That is to say, it is held that the cotton should be packed in such a manner as to admit of 5 tons weight being loaded on to a waggon. If this cannot be done, then the waggon-load of cotton, whatever its weight may be, is charged as for 5 tons, and 5 tons weight is entered in the Railway Returns, which show the receipts on freight. Thus a station may show in its returns 5 tons of cotton exported, when the actual weight of cotton sent down and available for the Bombay market was but 3 tons. The returns are valuable for the purposes of account, for which they are, I believe, primarily intended, but, as will be seen, they are not so useful in assisting us to form an estimate of the cotton available for export as the entries which give the number of packages of cotton carried by Railway.

STATEMENT A.

Showing the Exports towards Bombay of Central Provinces and Berar Cotton during the Seasons 1866-67, 1867-68, 1868-69.

	Full-pressed.	Half-pressed.	Dokras.	Total in Bombay Bales of half a Candy.
1866-67	5,088	53,181	680,641	276,600
1867-68	33,604	147,444	184,621	220,000
1868-69	70,501	177,775	64,595	270,000

STATEMENT B.

Showing in detail the Quantity of Cotton exported from the Stations of the G. I. P. Railway in the Central Provinces and Berars during the Season 1868-69. (*The Central Provinces Stations are given in italics.*)

	Full-pressed.	Half-pressed.	Dokras.	
Nagpore	..	..	679	
Sindee	320*	..	296	
Wurdah	4,224	17,409	1,095	
Poolgaon	..	8,759	1,536	
Chandoor	..	4,379	654	
Budnaira	23,384	37,608	883	
Moortizapoor	..	13,980	1,483	
Akola	..	4,804	2,237	
Shengaon..	14,772	50,860	3,921	
Nandoorah	27,801	39,976	17,554	
Mulkapore	..	...	4,261	
Boorhanpore	..	..	8,051	Returns not received.
Khundwa	..	..	18,675	Returns not received.
	70,181	1,77,775	61,325	

* Cotton sent to the North Western Provinces, &c. not included in the total.

At the commencement of the year, and, indeed, far into the present season, apprehensions were entertained of a "short" cotton crop in the Berars, from which quarter the supplies are chiefly drawn. The area of land under cotton cultivation had not, as has been shown, undergone any considerable increase, and the rains had almost entirely failed. Last monsoon, as will be seen from the figures given in the margin, but 21·73 inches of rain were registered, the average fall being about 36 inches; and this scanty rainfall, too, was confined to the brief period from the commencement of June to the close of August. The "later rains" on which the second pickings of the plant generally depend, were altogether wanting, and, indeed, with the exception of a few showers within the last ten days, no rain has fallen in the Berars since the commencement of last September up to date. With such a season, and no noticeable increase in the cotton area, it was not unnatural to apprehend a falling-off in the crop. Unfavourable reports were received from all quarters, and in some places it was even feared that it might be necessary to grant remissions of the Government revenue. In December last, referring to the Berar crop, I wrote:—

Statement showing the Rain-fall in Berar during the Monsoon of 1868.

	Inches.	Cents.
June	6	57
July	5	21
August	9	45
Sept. (10th & 11th)	..	50
	21	73

> "The cotton sown after the first burst of rain which fell more than a fortnight earlier than usual, has not felt the want of the later rains so much, but I fear that the cotton which was not put into the ground until July, must be more or less affected by the drought. Luckily, however, the cotton sown late bears but a small proportion to the whole crop."

Later in the season, as the rain still held off, the prospects seemed more unfavourable than ever, and apprehensions were very generally entertained regarding the out-turn of the crop in the Berars, though, as duly reported to your Chamber, the favourable season in the Wurdhah Valley promised to go far to make up for the threatened deficiency in the adjoining province. It is then very satisfactory to find that the exports stand well; and whatever other reasons there may be in explanation of the large supplies, these figures may undoubtedly be accepted as speaking well for the hardiness of the Berar cotton plant, which weathered a season such as no exotic plant could have successfully faced. And not only in regard to quantity, but also in *quality*, the crop has been a good one. During the busy months of 1868, the cotton damaged by the unexpected rain of January entailed great loss on the Ryots, and vast trouble on the Agents and others engaged in selecting cotton in these Provinces. This season, I am glad to say, the crop has been pronounced on all

sides to be excellent, and the staple does not appear to have been in any way affected by the limited rain-fall.

6. The increase in the exports is not, however, to be credited entirely to the Berars. The season in the Wurdah Valley, the great cotton-supplying tract of the Central Provinces, was, as duly reported to your Chamber, exceedingly favourable, and even had the Berar crop proved less successful, the cotton of Hingunghat and the neighbourhood would undoubtedly have prevented the exports from these Provinces falling much below the average of former years. The figures, when examined, show the exports from the Central Provinces and the Berars, during the two years under notice, to have been as follows; and as the season of 1867-68, on account of the heavy rain, which destroyed so much of the crop, cannot be considered to have been an average one, the figures for 1866-67 also have been added to the Statement.

Exports from the Central Provinces and the Berars during the Seasons 1866-67, 1867-68, *and* 1868-69.

	Bales.		
	1866-67.	1867-68.	1868-69.
Central Provinces	54,000	16,000	40,823
The Berars	222,000	204,000	232,318
Total Bales....	276,000	220,000	273,141

7. The degree in which the several stations on the line help to make up the grand total of our exports will be seen by the annexed detailed Statement B (see *ante*) of this season's traffic on the G. I. P. Railway. But neither this Statement, nor the figures given above, show with perfect fairness the part played by the Central Provinces in supplying the Bombay market with cotton. The exports from Budnaira, at present the Railway Station for Oomraotee, will be noticed to be extremely large. Well, a considerable portion of the cotton of Arvee and the neighbouring villages in the Central Provinces is attracted across the river Wurdah to Oomraotee, and this is not balanced by the quantity taken into Hingunghat from the Berar side. Altogether, then, at a rough estimate (for the figures cannot be given until the receipt of the trade returns, and the more exact statistics will be found in my annual Report now to be submitted to Government), about 10,000 bales of the Oomraotee exports

may be credited to the Central Provinces; and this, if added to the figures above given, would raise the total exports from the Central Provinces this season to Bombay to about 50,000 bales, which, if compared with the figures of former years, shows that the season in the Wurdah Valley was, notwithstanding the limited rain-fall, a successful one.

8. The high price prevailing throughout the season has not been without its effect on the exports. Nearly all the cotton that was to be got at in the Berars, was, I believe, brought to market; and the quantity held back for better prices, or retained for home consumption, must have been extremely small. The increased exports may also be accounted for, in part, by the favourable name which our markets have now obtained, and by the large quantities attracted thither of cotton grown outside the boundary of our Provinces. At Khangaon, Akote, Oomraotee, and Hingunghaut, the buyers, European and Native, at these no longer inaccessible markets, have very greatly increased during the last two or three years; the competition among the Agents is very brisk, and the Ryots, naturally enough, favour markets where competition ensures for them not only a high price, but an immediate sale. Moreover, as "Oomraotee" is one of the best brands of Indian cotton, both the cotton-grower, and the dealer who purchase consignments in the interior, have a great inducement to bring the produce to the Berar markets, and to get it passed down as part of the Oomraotee crop, rather than cart it across to a nearer, but less favourably known, market far outside our boundary. And hence it is that considerable quantities of cotton, all of a good quality, but which nevertheless, cannot claim to be the produce of the Central Provinces or the Berars, are now brought to our markets, and these help to swell the export returns. The cotton-growing tracts of the Nizam's country, lying between the angle the apex of which is at Callian, and the sides of which are formed by the Nagpore and Sholapore lines of the G. I. P. Railway Company, for the reasons given above, naturally enough favour the Nagpore branch; and this season I have seen cotton brought into Khangaon and Sheogaon, which had been brought from hundreds of miles south, in order to try and pass under the good name of our favoured market.

9. Nor have the Bombay supplies been affected this year by a steady drain of our cotton towards the North-Western Provinces and Bengal, as was the case last season. With the exception of some 300 bales despatched from the Sindee Station, I have not heard of any of the cotton grown to the south-west of Nagpore having been cut off from the Bombay market.

10. Still, even if the increased supplies are to some extent correctly accounted for as above, both the crop and the exports of these Provinces have this season been large, and the result is satis-

factory, as showing that the liberal price paid for cotton has not been without its effect on the cultivators.

11. Another and very satisfactory feature to be noticed in the returns, is the proportion borne by the pressed cotton to the total exports. The result has exceeded my expectations, sanguine as I was, and I doubt whether any one, who, three years ago, discussed the advantage of cotton being pressed in our Provinces, would have been prepared for the figures in Statement **A**, which may be thus explained.

In 1866 the whole of our cotton crop went down to Bombay in loose bags, or dokras.

In 1867 the system of pressing the cotton was commenced in these Provinces. At first, full-pressing did not make much way, 2 per cent. only of the crop passing through the full-presses. The half-presses, however, secured 13 per cent. of the crop, and the net result was, that in that year 15 per cent. of the crop went down pressed, more or less, against 85 per cent. of dokra cotton.

In 1868 the proportion of full-pressed and half-pressed cotton advanced to 17 per cent. and 55⅝ per cent. of the crop, respectively, or nearly ¾ of the crop being pressed, the dokras falling to 27½ per cent. of the exports.

Now, this season, the number of full-pressed bales has risen to 70,500, and the half-pressed bales exceed 177,000, of a total crop of 270,000, bales. That is to say, 26 per cent. of the crop now goes to the full-presses, 66 per-cent. to the half-presses, making the per-centage of pressed cotton to dokras as 92 to 8.

12. The reports periodically submitted to your Chamber will have kept you to some extent informed of the further efforts that are being made to improve the cultivation of cotton and to assist the trade in these Provinces. It may, however, be convenient, at the close of the season, to recapitulate briefly the measures that have been adopted towards these ends.

In regard to the improvement of cotton cultivation, the result of the experiments, conducted again this year with great care, has not been such as to convince me that the American cotton-seed is likely to prove a success in Central India; and I am still inclined to believe that the view expressed * * * * by your Chamber, that more good is likely to be effected by the careful treatment of the indigenous plant, than by the adoption of exotic seed, is correct. * * * *

The season, it is true, was particularly unfavourable. Still, the hardly little Berar plant suffered but slightly, whilst the fields sown with exotic seed presented a most withered appearance, and most of the crop was destroyed by the want of rain. And it is, I fear, suffi-

ciently evident that a plant that cannot stand the caprices of the Deccan climate, is not likely to find general favour in the Berars.

13. Recently three Officers have been appointed by His Excellency the Viceroy in Council to act as Assistants to the Cotton Commissioner, and to aid in all matters connected with the Department, and during the rains further experiments with various sorts of seed will be carefully conducted by them. The indigenous cotton-seed, grown and selected under my own superintendence, on the plan so usefully advocated by Major Trevor Clarke, has now so increased in quantity, as to render it necessary that the experiments with seed-farming should be undertaken on a much larger scale.

With this view, three seed-farms, aggregating 260 acres, have been established at selected spots, near Sheagaon, in West Berar; Oomraotee, in East Berar; and Hingunghat, in the Wurdah Valley; and these farms have been placed under the charge of the Assistants recently appointed. It is confidently hoped that the crop of superior seed grown at these farms may have a decided effect on the cotton cultivation of this part of India. As there is every desire that the exotic cotton should have the fairest of chances, experiments on a small scale with exotic seed will be undertaken at the seed-farms, and the result will be duly reported to you. Next to decided success, I should prefer a really good failure, which would authoritatively decide the question of exotic seed, and enable us to concentrate all our energies on the improvement of the indigenous plant.

14. Applications for Hingunghat seed have been numerous. But, save in neighbouring Districts, possessing similar physical peculiarities, as, for instance, Khandesh, I have not so much faith now in the introduction of this excellent cotton, which owes its superiority to the soil and climate of the Wurdah Valley. Still, the failure of experiments with this seed in various parts of India will not be without their value, if they help to establish that, save under special circumstances, as for instance in the peculiar climate of Dharwar, a strange cotton will not answer, and that those who desire to improve the cotton of their districts should devote attention to the cultivation of the indigenous plant, by the selection of seed, and by other well-known operations of farming.

Five thousand maunds, or 180 tons, of Hingunghat seed have been supplied this season to the Khandesh District, and there I have every hope of the seed proving successful, as Khandesh bears a remarkable resemblance to the cotton-growing lands of the Wurdah Valley.

15. I believe that your Chamber quite concurs in the view, that the satisfactory position of the Cotton Trade in the Central Provinces and the Berars will depend quite as much on the improvement of the means of communication with the Cotton Districts, as on any other measures that it may be within the power of Government to

adopt. It will, then, be satisfactory to notice that the improvements in the means of communication with the cotton markets, by Post and by Telegraph, and by the construction of roads and the extension of branch lines of railway, have received due attention.

Although we may hope for further improvement in the postal arrangements at the cotton markets in the Berars, still it will be generally admitted that the establishment of Tanga Daks between the Railway stations and Khangaon and Oomraotee, and the changes in the hours of the despatch of the mails, have proved of convenience to the trade.

Before the season commenced, too, the Government Telegraph Department completed the line which now connects Khangaon, Sheagaon, Akote, Akola, Oomraotee, and Hingunghat with the Bombay and European markets, and it is now proposed to add, without delay, a separate cotton line for the exclusive use of our markets.

The construction of roads in the Berars, where the stone metal is liable, after a time, to settle down at several inches below the deep cotton soil, is a matter of great difficulty and expense; but it is, I believe, correctly held that much good may be done by attending to the country tracks across which the cotton traffic passes, and by repairing particularly bad spots, making troublesome nullahs passable, and improving the approaches to the rivers; and all this is steadily done by the District authorities.

During this season, too, the Commissioner of West Berar has caused the narrow track in the Adjuntee Hills, down which the Ghat cotton pours during the season, to be made into a cart road. It will thus no longer be necessary that the cotton brought from above the hills should be carried on bullocks, as has long been the case.

16. Lastly, the construction of a branch line of Railway, long advocated by the Resident at Hyderabad, from the Jullum Station on the G. I. P. Railway to Khangaon, has been sanctioned by His Excellency the Viceroy and Council, and the works are actually in progress. The branch to Oomraotee has also been favourably considered; and it is hoped that this important work may be undertaken as soon as the sister line shall have been completed.

This season, too, notwithstanding the break in the Railway communication, the merchants at Khangaon and Oomraotee were able to rid themselves on the spot of the risk of the transport of their cotton to Bombay. The G. I. P. Railway Company established carting agencies at these markets, and undertook the care of the merchants' bales from the cotton-yard there, to the consignee at Bombay; and by the excellent arrangements of the Traffic Depart-

ment of the G. I. P. Railway Company, much of the anxiety and trouble that long attended the business of an European cotton merchant in the interior has been removed.

By the introduction, too, of an improved class of full-press, which, even in the dry atmosphere of the Berars, turns out a bale containing $3\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of cotton net, and by the liberal terms accorded by the G. I. P. Railway Company to the well-packed cotton, and by the regularity with which the consignments are delivered in Bombay, the cost of the carriage of our produce from the markets to the seaboard has been greatly reduced; and the delay, and loss, and expense, and trouble, attending the transport of our cotton from the interior to Bombay are now legends of the past.

17. Few can be more sensible than I am of how much this great gain is due to the arrangements of the G. I. P. Railway Company; and, at the end of this another season, I would desire to bear testimony to the benefit that has resulted to the cotton trade of our Provinces by the excellent arrangements of the Traffic Department,—a view in which your Chamber will, I doubt not, heartily join.

* * * * *

As already noticed, the Branch Railway to Khangaon has been commenced, and it is confidently expected that the line will be ready to carry next season's traffic. There will, it is hoped, be no difficulty in running sidings from the main line into the yards belonging to the Factories at which a large portion of the Berar cotton is now packed, ready for export, in full-pressed bales. The Railway Company has long since completed the arrangements by which the waggons can be unloaded at the wharf on the Elphinstone Reclamation at Bombay, whence the bales are taken direct to the ships in the harbour.

It is not, then, too much to hope that, next season, the cotton grown around Khangaon, purchased at the market there, and pressed at the adjoining Factories, may not have to leave the rails from the time that it is rolled from the Press-house into the waggon, until its arrival on the wharf at Bombay; and it will not be difficult to calculate the time that will be necessary, with the assistance of the telegraph which joins Khangaon and Liverpool, the complete Railway communication between the market and the port of shipment, and with, perhaps, the Suez Canal to assist still further in the transport of our cotton, to execute an order sent from Liverpool, and to land the required number of Khangaon bales in Lancashire.

I have, &c.,

HARRY RIVETT-CARNAC.

No. 162 of 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
10th July 1869.

To H. RIVETT-CARNAC, Esq.,

Cotton Commissioner, Central Provinces, and Berars.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 18th ultimo and 6th instant.

* * * * *

Your letter of the 18th ultimo contains much interesting information respecting the operations of your department during the cotton season recently closed, and I am to express the acknowledgements of the Committee for your ready attention in supplying information and otherwise promoting the interests of those engaged in the cotton trade by every means at the command of your department.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

APPENDIX G.

RAILWAY FROM KHANGAON TO JULLUM STATION.

Khangaon Cotton Market, 1st May 1869.

To JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose, in the name of the Cotton Committee of this place, copy of a Memorial addressed by the Merchants and Agents of Khangaon to the Cotton Commissioner of the Central Provinces and Berars on the subject of the Railway proposed to be made from Jullum station to this Market.

Having visited this town at the end of last season you will no doubt have a personal recollection of the tedious and irksome journey it is even for travellers from the Railway to this the most important cotton mart in the Mofussil. We feel sure that many of the members of the Chamber also take a lively interest in the undertaking, the carrying out of which would so much facilitate the despatch of Cotton to Bombay. I have no hesitation in saying that in the time of transit a saving of at least two days would be effected by bringing the Railway to the Market.

We trust, therefore, that you will kindly take an early opportunity of exerting the powerful influence of your Chamber in favour of the scheme, with the view of obtaining the sanction of Government to the immediate commencement of operations before the approach of the rains, so as to ensure the line being open for traffic by next season.

I have, &c.,

R. H. WILSON,

Secretary.

Khangaon, 29th April 1869.

To HARRY RIVETT-CARNAC, Esq.,

Cotton Commissioner Central Provinces and Berars.

SIR,—We the undersigned Merchants and Cotton Agents of Khangaon beg to address you on the subject of the proposed

railway between Jullum Station on the G. I. P. Railway and this Market.

The proposed railway is only seven miles in length, the survey has been made, and the line marked out; no bridging, and but very little earthwork is required, and we feel assured that if operations were commenced without delay the line would be ready for (if not all) certainly the greater portion of the next season's cotton crop.

We know that Mr. Saunders, the Resident, is in favour of the scheme, and we cannot too strongly urge the importance of the work being carried out *at once;* the trade of this market is, you are well aware, largely on the increase; the only made road is that to Nandora (12 miles distant), and owing to the enormous traffic, it has for some time past been in a most disgraceful state, notwithstanding the thorough repairs made during the monsoon; this is apparent from the fact that heavily laden carts are sent in preference to Sheagaum by the country cart-track.

If Government had in the first instance bridged and metalled the road to Nandora, it would have been a great boon to the public, but at present it is useless for several months in the year, while the cost of maintenance is very heavy.

It is rumoured that Government now contemplate bridging this road, and putting it in thorough repair. We are strongly of opinion that money laid out in this direction would be money thrown away, whereas it would always be remunerative if spent on a road or branch line to Jullum. If we are to have this line to Jullum it is absolutely necessary that no time be lost, the earthwork will require the benefit of the rain during the monsoon, and if operations are not immediately commenced another year will be lost.

When we review the changes and improvements that have been made in this market in consequence of your always having taken such interest in the cotton trade, and zealously urged the promotion of works of public utility, we feel assured that you will warmly support us in impressing upon Government the necessity of immediately undertaking the construction of the branch line above referred to.

We have, &c.,

ROGHE & Co.
R. H. WILSON, Agent Mofussil P. & G. Co.
BOOTH & Co.
&c., &c.

No. 105 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
8th May 1869.

R. H. WILSON, Esq.,
Secretary to Cotton Committee, Khangaon.

DEAR SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 1st instant, together with copy of the memorial therein referred to from the merchants and agents at Khangaon to the Cotton Commissioner Central Provinces and Berars, on the subject of a proposed branch line of Railway from Khangaon to Jullum Station on the G. I. P. Railway,

These papers and the subject to which they refer were considered by the Committee of Management at their last Meeting, and I have now the pleasure to forward herewith for the information of the Cotton Committee copy of a letter which I addressed to the Bombay Government, handing up copies of the memorial and urging that the Government of India be at once addressed on the matter with a view to the proposed scheme being carried out without delay.

The Chamber has also commended the question to the attention of the Resident at Hyderabad, and requested his support to the proposal.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 103 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
7th May 1869.

TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to forward herewith for the information of Government copy of a letter to the Chamber and of a memorial to the Cotton Commissioner Central Provinces and Berars, from the Cotton Agents and others at Khangaon, praying for a branch line of Railway between that great cotton mart and the station on the G. I. P. Railway at Jullum, distant about seven miles.

In bringing this subject to the notice of Government, I am to point out the importance of the proposed branch line, and the advantages it would confer on the cotton trade by the great improvement it would effect on the existing very imperfect means of communication between the Railway and the principal cotton market in Berar.

Khangaon is equidistant, 12 miles, from Nandooraa and Sheagaon, the two Stations nearest to it on the G. I. P. Railway. At present the cotton is principally despatched by cart from Khangaon to Nandoorah, the nearest station to Bombay, over a road intersected by nullas, the two largest of which are not bridged, and in other respects so bad, that the traffic is impeded to a most serious extent.

The road from Khangaon to Sheagaon is an ordinary country road passable in fair weather—but were it better than it is, it would not be used for the cotton traffic to the Railway, as cotton despatched from Sheagaon to Bombay would be subject to twenty miles more of railway carriage hire, than the cotton despatched from Nandoorah. In this state of affairs it has been suggested that the best, and on the whole probably the cheapest means of connecting Khangaon with the Railway, would be by a branch line from the former place to Jullum, a station midway between Nandoorah and Sheagaon, and distant from Khangaon in a direct line only about seven miles.

There are no engineering difficulties of any kind, and it is believed the cost of such a branch would not much exceed that of putting the road between Khangaon and Nandoorah in really good order.

The proposal is strongly recommended by Mr. Rivett-Carnac, the Cotton Commissioner Central Provinces and Berars, the European merchants and Cotton agents, and the native dealers and shroffs at Khangaon.

And the members of this Chamber, who are, for the most part, able to support these recommendations from their personal knowledge of the districts in question, earnestly hope His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council will not fail to urge on the Government of India, the prompt carrying out of a scheme that will prove a great benefit to the Bombay cotton trade at very little cost to the State.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

No. 104 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

8th May 1869.

C. B. SAUNDERS, Esq., C.B.,

Resident, Hyderabad, Deccan.

SIR,—I have the honour, by direction of the Committee of Management of this Chamber, to forward herewith for your information copy of a letter which I have addressed to the Government of Bombay, on the subject of the proposed short branch line of Railway from Khangaon to Jullum Station on the G. I. P. line. The Committee trust the views therein expressed may have your approval, and that you will use your influence with the Government of India to have this small but very important project carried out with the least possible delay.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary

No. 1144 OF 1869.

Railway.

From Captain G. SWETENHAM, R.E.,

In Charge Office of Secretary to Resident, Hyderabad;

Department Public Works.

TO THE SECRETARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BOMBAY.

Secretary's Office, Bolaram, 16th June 1869.

SIR,—I am directed by the Resident to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 8th ultimo, with enclosure regarding the branch line of Railway from Khangaon to Jullum, and in reply to state that Mr. Saunders is glad to be able to inform the Chamber of Commerce that the Plans and Estimate connected with this project, which had been prepared by the Officers of the Public Works Department under this Administration last year, have been approved by the Government of India, and the construction of the line has not only been sanctioned, but the work is already in hand.

2. The works will, I am to remark, be pushed on with energy, and the Resident has every reason to believe, provided a supply of good and serviceable rails can be obtained in this country, that the line of Railway will be open by the end of the year, or shortly after, for the cotton traffic of the coming season.

I have, &c.,

G. SWETENHAM, Captain, R.E.,

In Charge Public Works Secretariat.

APPENDIX H.

RATES FOR CARRYING COTTON ON THE G. I. P. RAILWAY.

No. 191 of 1868.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
23rd December 1868.

WALTER KNOX, Esq.,
Agent G. I. P. Railway Company, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—It has been represented to the Chamber of Commerce that action has, with very little warning beforehand, been taken by the Company in altering the conditions on which half-pressed cotton was carried last season from the Central Provinces and Berar, and the result has been to hinder trade and delay cotton from coming forward at a time when it is freely offered in the districts.

The course complained of cannot have other than an injurious effect on the cotton export trade, and I am directed by the Committtee of Management of the Chamber to request you will be good enough to state to me for the information of the Chamber the nature of the alterations that have caused so much dissatisfaction amongst the dealers, and the reasons on the part of the Company for making them at the present time.

I remain, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 9884.

Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company's Offices,
28th December 1868.

JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—With reference to your letter dated 23rd instant, I beg to state that the Company have simply, but strictly, carried

out what was agreed upon at the Chamber of Commerce in 1867, viz. that the density of a bale of cotton should be 10 pounds to the cubic foot.

An attempt has, by the native merchants, been made to force on to the Company, as half-pressed cotton, bales the density of which is only 6 lbs.

The merchants have, I may add, given way in their demand.

I am, &c.,

W. KNOX,
Agent.

APPENDIX I.

TARES ON EAST INDIA COTTON.

B 8, Exchange Buildings,
Liverpool, 26th January 1869.

To the President and Council of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Gentlemen,—I am requested by the East India and China Association of this town to draw the attention of your Chamber to the very unsatisfactory state of the question of Tares on East India Cotton. Owing to the great increase in the weight of the wrappering and ropes used in packing Surats, the original allowance of 15 lbs. per bale is too frequently found to be quite inadequate, especially in the case of native cotton, and it has consequently become necessary to ascertain the actual tare, a course which is not only expensive, but on many other grounds very objectionable.

I am therefore requested to impress upon your Chamber the desirability of adopting such measures as shall restrict the tares to 15 lbs. per bale, which experience has proved to be amply sufficient.

It is clearly for the advantage of all concerned that a uniform tare should be adhered to, and thus prevent distrust on the part of buyers, and a continuance of the annoyance and expense to which the Trade are at present exposed.

I am, &c.,
ROBERT GLADSTONE,
President of the Liverpool East India and China Association.

No. 83 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
10*th April* 1869.

R. Gladstone, Esq.,
President of the East India and China Association, Liverpool.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of this Chamber to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th January last, complaining of "the very unsatisfactory state of the question of Tares on East India Cotton, especially in the case of

Native cotton," and impressing on the Chamber "the desirability of adopting such measures as shall restrict the tares to 15 lbs. per bale."

In reply I am to state that this matter has engaged the attention of the Members of the Chamber: the desirability of uniformity in the weight of the tares of cotton bales is readily admitted on all hands, but amidst the numerous opinions laid before the Committee on the subject, no scheme of a practical character has been suggested that could be commended for general adoption.

Various qualities and weights of gunny and fastenings will continue to be used by different shippers, and while such is the case, it would be vain to expect strict uniformity in the weight of tares.

The Native Shippers, who are most complained of in this matter, are not within the influence or amenable to the control of the Chamber.

In conclusion, I am to state the question will not be lost sight of, and should any plan be hereafter proposed likely to give effect to the object in view, this Chamber will use its best endeavours to get it carried out.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

APPENDIX J.

MUTUAL ALLOWANCES ON COTTON SOLD TO ARRIVE.

No. 48 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
20th February 1869.

To the Secretary to the Cotton Brokers' Association,
Liverpool.

Sir,—This Chamber has been informed that efforts are now being made in Liverpool to carry out an arrangement whereby cotton from Bombay sold to arrive may be settled for on a principle of mutual allowances: that is, should the sale be made on the basis of Fair, when it comes to hand, if found to be $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb. better than the classification, this is to be allowed to the seller; and if $\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb. worse than fair, then the buyer pays so much less for it.

The Committee of Management of this Chamber are of opinion that if sales to arrive in Liverpool were made on this system of "mutual allowance," it would have a most wholesome influence in putting a stop to the petty adulterations that have hitherto operated so injuriously on the Indian Cotton trade. The Committee would therefore earnestly invoke the influential support of the Liverpool Brokers' Association in aid of a system already partially introduced, which, while fair to all interests concerned, will, if it become at all general, tend greatly to encourage the export from this port of a superior class of cotton.

I remain, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 49 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
20th February 1869.

To the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,
Manchester.

Sir,—I have the honour by direction of the Committee of Management of this Chamber to enclose herewith copy of a letter

which I have addressed by their order to the Secretary to the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association on the subject of an arrangement for settlement in the matter of cotton sold to arrive, on the basis of "mutual allowance," as therein explained; and I am to request you will do us the favour to move the Manchester Chamber to use its influence in having the system of allowances referred to generally carried out.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Manchester, 9th April 1869.

JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary Bombay Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 25th February last, submitting for the approval and support of this Chamber, a proposed arrangement for "mutual allowances" on cotton sold "to arrive," the principle of which was explained in copy letter enclosed, addressed to the Liverpool Cotton Brokers' Association.

After a full and careful consideration of the subject, the Board adopted the following resolution, viz.:—

"That the system of buying and selling cotton 'to arrive' has created and fostered a course of reckless speculation, unduly raised and depressed the price of the raw material to the serious injury of the fair trading merchants, manufacturers, and of the work-people, opened out a means of engaging in extensive pecuniary transactions to men without capital; and therefore this Chamber strongly deprecates the increase of facilities for the continued carrying out of such a system."

In handing you the foregoing copy of resolution, I am directed to state that the Directors of this Chamber are desirous of giving every assistance in establishing any legitimate arrangement that will secure reliability as to quality of cotton. They are, however, of opinion that the system of "mutual allowances" as suggested would have no material effect in that direction, but on the other hand would relieve the exporter from the obligation incumbent upon him of careful sampling before shipment.

The objection to the practice as now conducted is that it constitutes the principal means by which a combined and permanent body of speculators is kept on foot in the cotton markets of this country, who, having little or no capital, are yet enabled to engage in enor-

mous transactions precisely after the manner of the professional speculators of the share and stock exchanges. The various devices which have been brought into operation under this system for the purpose of raising or depressing the market have had a most baneful effect on the cotton industry of this district, and render futile all reasonable calculations as to price upon probable supply and demand.

With these opinions the Directors would not feel justified in the adoption of the arrangement for "mutual allowances"—suggested by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

I remain, &c.,

THOS. BROWNING,

Secretary.

No. 133 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

9th June 1869.

T. BROWNING, Esq.,

Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Manchester.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of this Chamber to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 9th April, handing copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of the Manchester Chamber, condemnatory of the proposal made in my letter of the 25th February on the subject of mutual allowances on cotton sold to arrive.

2. In reply, I am to state that the question of the morality of the custom of buying and selling cotton to arrive, raised by the resolution of the Manchester Chamber submitted in your letter under acknowledgment is one which the Committee of this Chamber do not feel called upon to discuss.

3. The Custom has been long established in connection with the cotton trade, as also in connection with other trades in most leading articles of foreign produce, and it is not likely to be altered by any adverse resolutions that may be passed upon it.

4. The proposal made in connection with the custom by this Chamber seemed to the Committee of Management reasonable in itself, and likely to have a beneficial influence in reference to the quality of the cotton exported from Bombay, and they can only express their regret that it should have failed to meet the approval of the Manchester Chamber.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

APPENDIX K.

DIVI-DIVI AS AN ARTICLE OF EXPORT FROM BOMBAY.

No. 170 of 1868.

Bombay, Chamber of Commerce,
7th November 1868.

Messrs. Smith, Fleming & Co., London.

Dear Sirs,—I have the pleasure to advise you, that by direction of the Committee of Management of the Chamber, I have forwarded to your address through your friends Messrs. W. Nicol & Co., by the Mail Steamer of the present date, a package received from the Collector of Rutnagherry, said to contain about three maunds of Divi-Divi pods, which I trust may reach you safely soon after the receipt of this.

This package of Divi-Divi pods is forwarded to you by the Chamber on account of the Government of Bombay, in order that by the aid of your good offices we may get a report from competent brokers as to the quality and market-value of the sample, and thus enable Government to form an opinion on the point as to the expediency of extending the cultivation of the *Cæsalpinia Coriaria*, the tree which produces the pods. The history of this experiment in substance is as follows :—

Early in 1866 a sample of these pods, from plants grown in the Dharwar Collectorate, was submitted by Government to the Chamber for opinion as to its commercial value. To this request an answer was given to the effect that Divi-Divi was unknown as an article of commerce in this or any other part of India, and that the Committee were unable to say whether the small parcel of pods submitted were equal to what was produced in Venezuela and other parts of Central America or not. But as Divi-Divi was a useful article of commerce, and the tree would grow well in the Konkans and similar districts, the Chamber considered the matter worthy the attention of Government, as possibly by the expenditure of some labour and trouble a new article of export might be added to the few at present sent from this side of India.

This opinion of the Chamber led to experiments being made under the sanction of Government in the Collectorates of the Southern Konkan, and the package now advised is part of the produce of this experiment.

The Committee will therefore be much obliged by your kindly having the small supply of pods now advised examined and reported upon as soon after receipt as may be convenient, by one or two of the principal brokers in either London or Liverpool, or both; and forwarding the same to the Chamber through your friends here, in order that we may be in a position to report fully to Government on the subject.

The sample now advised kindly dispose of by sale, after it has been reported on; and kindly forward an account of all charges at your convenience, in order that we may recover the same from Government.

I remain, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 6 of 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
18th January 1869.

F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq.,
Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour, by direction of the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce, to forward herewith for the information of Government, copy of a letter received from Messrs. Smith, Fleming & Co., London, by last mail, together with the reports therein referred to on three maunds of Divi-Divi pods received from the Collector of Rutnagherry, Mr. Boswell, and forwarded to England in November last to Messrs. Smith, Fleming & Co., for report.

I also annex to the other enclosures, extract from my letter to Messrs. Smith, Fleming & Co, when advising the despatch of the package for your convenience, to assist you in arriving at a glance at the leading points connected with the experiment.

I am to point out for the information of Government that in the opinion of the Committee the reports that have been received regarding the Divi-Divi are highly satisfactory, and would fully justify Government in giving every encouragement to the cultivation of the *Cæsalpinia Coriaria*, the tree from which the pods known by the commercial name of Divi-Divi are produced.

The prices quoted in the reports received from Messrs. Smith, Fleming & Co., are as high as have been known, but as the Committee have no means of estimating the cost of production, they are unable to say whether it can be regularly produced and shipped from Bombay to England at a profit.

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

London, 18th December 1868.

JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,

Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—We have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 7th November, referring to a sample of Divi-Divi, upon which the Chamber wish a report.

We now beg to enclose copies of our London and Liverpool brokers' Reports on this sample, which we trust you will find useful. We consider this a very good sample of Divi-Divi, which is always a current article of commerce in this country.

We note your instructions as to the sale of the sample, which shall have our attention, and the result will be duly communicated to you.

We are, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
SMITH, FLEMING & Co.

Copies of Reports and Valuations upon samples of Divi-Divi.

MESSRS. BARBER, NEPHEW & Co.

36 *Fenchurch Street, London, 10th December* 1868.

"We have much pleasure in handing you our report on the sample of Divi-Divi received from you this day, which would sell readily at £11 per ton in bulk and £11 10*s.* per ton in bags, being of good quality, clean, and tolerably pale.

"This article is at present very scarce in this market, and would no doubt fully realize the above valuations."

MESSRS. A. & W. NESBITT.

46 *Line Street, London, 11th December* 1868.

"In reply to your favour of yesterday, the sample of Divi-Divi is the finest we have seen, and we value it at £13 per ton.

"Rio Harlu is selling at £11-10 to £12."

MESSRS. T. H. LITTLEDALE & CO.

Liverpool, 11th December 1868.

"Your favour of yesterday is to hand, and the sample of Divi-Divi, which we have examined. It is a fair sample and worth £13 per ton. The article is very saleable here just now."

No. 125 OF 1869.

Rutnagherry Collector's Office,
Camp Jalgaum, 27th January 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
Bombay.

SIR,—In reference to your letter of the 18th instant forwarding copies of the reports of the principal Produce-brokers in London and Liverpool, on the Divi-Divi seed, I have the honour to state that the price, viz. about £12 or £13 per ton, will not, I fear, be sufficiently renumerative for the labour and trouble which the preservation and collection of the seed cost, so that I cannot expect any interest will be taken by the people in its production.

Should the seed actually sent produce any return, I had promised the proceeds to those natives who were at the trouble of picking and drying it, and could you obtain and remit me any sum on this account for them it would prove to them the most practical and convincing argument of the value of the produce. Nothing else is so likely to stimulate its growth.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
H. B. BOSWELL, Collector.

No. 37 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
6th February 1869.

H. B. Boswell, Esq.,
Collector, Rutnagherry.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, stating that you fear the price per ton, from £12 to £13, for Divi-Divi, according to the sample sent to England for report, would not remunerate for the labour and trouble which the preservation and collection of the seed cost, and that you cannot expect any interest will be taken by the people in its production.

The Committee regret to hear this, as in the circumstances you mention it is not to be expected that cultivators will apply themselves to a description of cultivation that would only yield a loss.

The Committee of course can give no opinion on such a matter, as they have no data on which to form one; but it seems strange to them that an article grown on swamps and low grounds in Central America, and exported to England at a profit, could not be produced with at least equal advantage to the grower on the low-lying lands of the Southern and Northern Konkans, especially when the principal labour after planting seems to consist of picking and cleaning the pods.

The proceeds of the small quantity sent to England will, of course, be at your disposal as soon as we are advised on this point by our London correspondents, but you will readily see that the amount can only be a mere trifle, and could go but a small way as a reward for the purpose you mention.

An account will be sent to you for the expenses incurred by the Chamber in this matter, as soon as we may hear of the disposal of the sample sent to England.

I have &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

To James Taylor, Esq.,
Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—Adverting to extract of Proceedings of the Government of Bombay No. 501, of 5th instant, I beg to inform you that I am much interested in the cultivation of the Divi-Divi, and regret to find so very little information in the document alluded to.

I should be glad if you could inform me how many trees of the *Cæsalpinia* produced the three maunds of pods you received from the Collector of Rutnagherry. I have several large trees in my garden in the Deccan, and for several years past they, though very large and healthy, have never produced over 10 lbs. of pods each. At this rate it would require 224 trees to produce 1 ton of pods, value in England £13. This would, according to my calculation, be the produce of one acre.

I shall feel thankful for any information you may have received from the Collector of Rutnagherry as to the amount of produce per tree or per acre, and the expenses of the same.

I remain, &c.,

N. A. DALZELL.

Palghur, Mahim Districts, 7th February 1869.

No. 38 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
9th February 1869.

N. A. DALZELL, Esq.,
Conservator of Forests, Palghur, Mahim Districts.

DEAR SIR,—I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, and in reply have to inform you that the Chamber has no information at its disposal of the nature you desiderate, in reference to the produce of the trees of the *Cæsalpinia Coriaria*. All the Chamber has done in the matter of the Government experiments, and all it could do, was to get an opinion on the commercial value of the sample sent to it for this purpose, which was duly done, and the result communicated to Government.

We learn now from the Collector of Rutnagherry that the highest price obtainable in England for Divi-Divi according to the sample, viz. £13 per ton, would not pay for the cultivation.

Your own knowledge of the tree and the conditions of its culture will enable you to judge whether the view taken by the Collector of Rutnagherry is a sound one, and you may be able to explain why a product exported from Central America at a profit can only be produced here at a loss, or at such a cost as does not make it worth while to trouble about the cultivation.

I remain &c,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

P.S.—I enclose herewith copy of a letter we have received from the Collector of Rutnagherry on the subject.

No. 502 OF 1869.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 5th February 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

BOMBAY.

SIR,—With reference to yonr letter dated 18th ultimo, I am directed to convey to the Chamber of Commerce the thanks of the Right Honourable the Governor in Council for the interesting report therein contained regarding Divi-Divi Pods produced in the Rutnagherry Collectorate; and to state for the information of the Chamber that copies of your communication have been forwarded to the Officers noted in the margin.

The Commissioner in Sind.
The Revenue Commissioner N. D.
The Revenue Commissioner S. D.
The Conservator of Forests.
All Collectors.
The Honorary Secretary to the Agri-Horticultural Society.

I have, &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

No. 907 OF 1869.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 4th March 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

BOMBAY.

SIR,—With reference to my letter No. 502, dated 5th ultimo, I am directed to forward for the information of the Chamber of Commerce copies of the papers noted in the margin, relative to the cultivation of the Divi-Divi trees in Dharwar.

Memo. from the Revenue Commissioner S. D. No. 600, dated 22nd February 1869, with accompaniment.
Resolution of Government No. 906 dated 4th March 1869.

I have, &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

No. 906.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 4th March 1869.

READ the following papers:—

Letter from R. P. ROBERTSON, Esq., Acting Collector of Dharwar, to the Revenue Commissioner S. D., No. 232, dated 13th February 1869.

I have been favoured with copies of Government Resolution No. 501, dated 5th instant, and beg to submit the following.

2. There are in the Collector's garden at Dharwar four large trees of the Divi-Divi. In the autumn of last year some letters were written to the newspapers commenting upon the great value of the pods of this tree. After these letters had been published I received several communications asking for seeds; these applications I have met by forwarding supplies of the seed to several gentlemen.

3. Being, however, desirous of testing whether there was any truth in the reports regarding the commercial value of the pods of these trees, I have had the pods collected, and have now about a cart-load of the same. These I intended to have sent to England to be disposed of in the Liverpool market, believing that to be a true way of testing their commercial value. The reports, however, received with Government Resolution No. 501, renders this step unnecessary, as they conclusively prove the value of this tree.

4. During the last rains I planted out in different localities upwards of 200 young plants, and have now on hand for transplanting several hundred more of them. Should Government desire it, I shall be happy to forward small quantities of this seed to such of the Collectors as may wish for a supply.

5. The young plants resemble Babool very much, but grow with greater rapidity. Seeds planted last September are now fully three and four feet high. The tree is very handsome, gives abundance of shade, and grows well in both black and red soil. It has, as a road-side tree, several decided advantages over the Babool, viz.:—

1*st*.—That the seeds are not hard, and almost all germinate without difficulty.

2*nd*.—That it is handsome, and gives more shade than a Babool.

3*rd*.—That the ground below is not covered with thorns.

4*th*.—That its produce is of great commercial value.

6. I believe I pointed out to you the trees referred to in my 2nd paragraph during your visit to Dharwar when lately on circuit in this district.

Memorandum by W. H. Havelock, Esq., Acting Revenue Commissioner S. D. No. 600, dated 22nd February 1869.

Submitted to Government, with reference to their Resolution quoted by the Acting Collector. The undersigned has lately had an opportunity of inspecting the trees and young plants at Dharwar, and thinks Mr. Robertson is justified in his favourable opinion of the Divi-Divi.

2. Government will observe that Mr. Robertson is in a position to supply seed to such of the Collectors as may wish for a supply. He has also already supplied seed to several persons who took an interest in the subject. It is suggested that Mr. Robertson's report be published.

RESOLUTION.—The account given by Mr. Robertson of his success in the cultivation of the Divi-Divi is very satisfactory.

2. A copy of these papers may be placed on the Editors' Table, and copies should be also sent for the information of all Collectors.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—

The COMMISSIONER in SIND,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER S. D.,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER N. D.,
All COLLECTORS,
The CONSERVATOR of FORESTS,
The HONORARY SECRETARY to the AGRI-HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
The SECRETARY to the CHAMBER of COMMERCE (by letter).

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 1812 OF 1869.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
Bombay Castle, 5th May 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
BOMBAY.

SIR,—With reference to your letter* dated 28th ultimo, I am directed to forward for the information of the Chamber of Commerce copy of the Resolution of Government passed thereon this day, No. 1811.

I have, &c.,
F. R. S. WYLLIE,
Acting Under-Secretary to Government.

* Relative to the properties and Chemical Characteristics of two samples of Indian and South American Divi-Divi.

No. 1811.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Revenue Department, dated 5th May 1869.

Read the following papers:—

Letter from JAMES TAYLOR, Esq., Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, to F. S. CHAPMAN, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay, dated 28th April 1869.

Adverting to former correspondence on the subject of the *Divi-Divi* samples sent to England by the Chamber on behalf of Government for report, I have now the pleasure to hand you copy of a report giving an analysis of the properties and chemical characteristics of the sample sent from this country, as compared with the *Divi-Divi* imported into England from South America, by Dr. Stenhouse, Assayer to the Royal Mint, London.

Messrs. Smith, Fleming and Co., when sending this report to the Chamber, mentioned that they had sent the remaining portion of the sample to a Tanner, and that they would in due course communicate the practical result of any experiment that may be made.

The Committee of the Chamber are, however, of opinion that sufficient information has already been elicited as to the value of the article to justify Government in doing all in its power to promote the cultivation, in suitable localities, of the *Cæsalpinia Coriaria* tree, which produces the pods known in commerce as *Divi-Divi*.

Report by J. STENHOUSE, Esq., LL.D., F.R.S., &c., Assayer to the Royal Mint, dated 21st January 1869, on two samples of *Divi-Divi*—one South American and the other Bombay—received from Messrs. Smith, Fleming and Co.

Divi-Divi is the pod of a leguminous shrub, *Cæsalpinia Coriaria*, which grows to the height of about 20 or 30 feet in several districts of South America; the pods being usually exported from Carthagena. It also occurs in the island of Jamaica.

The South American variety is usually of dark brown colour, and varies in size, being generally from two or three inches long and half an inch broad. The specimen of this variety which I received from Messrs. Smith, Fleming and Co., is rather smaller than I have generally met with.

The pods are very much curled, as if they had been strongly dried, and contain a few flattish seeds. Its taste is highly astringent and bitter, but the astringent matter is contained only in the outer rind of the pod; the inner skin which encloses the seeds is nearly tasteless. The pods are often perforated with small holes, evidently the work of some insects, and their aqueous solution gives a copious precipitate with gelatin, and a deep blue colour with persalts of iron.

The sample of Divi-Divi from Bombay is of a paler colour, and the pods are considerably larger than the South American.

The amount of tannin in the two samples was carefully determined by Schuler's process with gelatin and salammoniac, and found to be as follows:—

	South American.	Bombay.
Tannin.....	19·0 per cent.	15·6 per cent.

From these results it will be seen that Bombay Divi-Divi is not so rich in tannin as the ordinary South American kind; 100 parts of the latter being equivalent to about 126 of the Bombay Divi-Divi for tanning purposes. But as in these two particular samples the Bombay pods are both larger and heavier than the South American samples, the deficiency in tannin might be more than compensated by the increased weight of the Divi-Divi the trees would yield.

Some thirty years ago some calico printers endeavoured to employ Divi-Divi as a substitute for galls, but the large quantity of mucilage it contained rendered it unfit for the purpose.

It is, however, pretty extensively employed in tanning leather, as the percentage of tannin it contains is considerable, and the presence of mucilage is not injurious in that process.

RESOLUTION.—Copy should be forwarded for the information of the Commissioner in Sind, the two Revenue Commissioners, all Collectors, the Conservator of Forests, and the Honorary Secretary Agri-Horticultural Society, in continuation of Government Resolution No. 501, dated 5th February 1869.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—

The COMMISSIONER IN SIND,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER N.D.,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER S.D.,
All COLLECTORS,
The CONSERVATOR of FORESTS,
The HONORARY SECRETARY to the AGRI-HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY,
The CHAMBER of COMMERCE (by letter).

F. S. CHAPMAN,
Chief Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX L.

WORKING OF THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

No. 46 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

15*th February* 1869.

To the Secretary to Government,

Telegraph Department, Bombay.

Sir,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to call the attention of Government to the inconvenience caused to merchants by the new form for telegrams prescribed by the Government Telegraph Department, for use by the Indo-European Telegraph.

According to the form previously in use, after giving the address necessary for securing the safe transmission of a telegram, merchants and other senders were permitted, and indeed required, to give their full address at foot of the telegram, that it might be thus properly authenticated, and so give facilities for inquiry in the event of complaints being subsequently made respecting the same. By the form now in use, merchants, if they sign their name and address in full as formerly, are charged for doing so, the same as if the address at foot was part of the telegram, and if merely a single word be used to save expense in this respect, the telegram cannot be looked upon as properly authenticated, and would probably be objected to on this ground, if produced for the purpose of evidence in a court of law.

I am therefore respectfully to request Government will be good enough to explain the reason of the recent change, and the charge now made for every word in the name of a firm, when given merely for the purpose of authenticating the telegram.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

No. 116 OF 1869.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 22nd April 1869.

FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 15th February, representing the inconvenience caused to merchants by the new form of telegram prescribed for use by the Indo-European Telegraph, and in reply am directed to transmit, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of a report on the subject by the Chief Director Indo-European Telegraph.

I have, &c.,

J. MACDONALD, Lieutenant Colonel,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

Telegram Forms.

Indo-European Telegraph Department.

No. 116.

Bombay Castle, 22nd April 1869.

Letter from the Chamber of Commerce, dated 15th February 1869. Representing the inconvenience caused to merchants by the new form of telegrams furnished by the Government Telegraph Office for use by the Indo-European Telegraph.

Letter from the Chief-Director, Indo-European Telegraph, No. 168, dated 10th April 1869.

SIR,—I have only this day received letter of the Chamber of Commerce to your address, dated 15th February. It appears to have been sent after me to Bushire.

I have referred the question put to the Telegraph Office at Bombay; and have been favoured with a copy of the Telegram containing the latest order on the subject. It is as follows :—

"A message may be transmitted under either a real or assumed name, but the true signature and address of the sender must follow the assumed name. The full signature and address will *not* be charged for, unless included in the body of the message."

It does not seem to me that the above is objectionable, in the sense of Mr. Taylor's objection. Quite the reverse. There is no prohibition, but rather an injunction to affix the "true signature and address:" and this is not chargeable if written at foot of the message.

I have, &c.,

F. J. GOLDSMID, Lieut-Colonel,

Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph.

RESOLUTION.—Copy of the report by the Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph, to be sent to the Chamber of Commerce in replying to their Secretary's letter of the 15th February last.

J. MACDONALD, Lieut-Colonel,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

To THE DIRECTOR-IN-CHIEF, INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

No. 95 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

30*th April* 1869.

THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant, communicating Government resolution of same date embodying a letter from the Chief Director Indo-European Telegraph, on the subject of the letter from the Chamber dated 15th February last, on the inconvenience to merchants of a new form for telegrams, and the rules for the use of the same that had been introduced into the Indo-European Telegraph office.

In reply I am to state that in reference to the telegraph order on the subject quoted in the resolution of Government, the Committee entirely agree with Colonel Goldsmid in considering it the very reverse of objectionable, for it applies the remedy that was required to remove the inconvenience the Chamber complained of.

I am however to point out that when I addressed Government on the 15th February, the order was not in existence, or at all events was not acted upon in the Telegraph office, for if it had, the letter would not have been written. When the order was published in the newspapers as an advertisement a week or ten days after the date of my

letter, the Committee were under the impression that Government had called the attention of the Telegraph Authorities to the matter, and that the publication of the order referred to was the result.

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 114 OF 1869.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
Bombay Castle, 19th April 1869.

FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.
TO THE SCRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to transmit herewith, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, copy of a letter from the Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph, No. 155, dated 5th April 1869, and of its accompanying circular, addressed from the International Telegraph Office to all European Telegraph Administrations, on the subject of certain irregularities in the transmission of Messages between England and India.

I have &c.,
J. MACDONALD, Lieutenant Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 155 OF 1869.

Bombay, 5th April 1869.

FROM THE CHIEF DIRECTOR, INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH,
TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY.

SIR,—A Circular from the International Telegraph Office of the States, parties to the Vienna Convention, has been received by me this day. It may be that the accompanying Translation will be of interest to the public.

I have &c.,
F. J. GOLDSMID, Colonel,
Chief Director Indo-European Telegraph.

CIRCULAR from the International Telegraph Office addressed to all European Telegraph Administrations.

Berne, 3rd March 1869.

M. LE DIRECTEUR GENERAL.

The Indo-European Telegraph Administration in London has, on several occasions, brought to my notice certain continuous irregularities in the correspondence between England and India.

It has, moreover, cited many particular examples.

I replied that it would appear advisable, in cases of the kind, to make of each instance a special reference to be addressed from one Administration to the other, along the very route which may have been followed by the particular Telegrams under investigation. I added that Article XXVII. of the Service Regulations provides for such references, and that although the ordinary object is one of reimbursement, it is not uncommon among European Administrations to adopt the same course in the event of irregularity committed, to obtain an inquiry of any description whatever.

The Indo-European Administration informs me that it will hereafter make its representations in the above sense, but it desires in the meanwhile that a Circular Letter should be addressed from the International Office, calling attention to the irregularities in question, on the part of all Administrations concerned in the transmission of Indian messages.

The complaints refer to the great delays and numerous mutilations to which the telegrams are subjected. The delays are peculiar in this respect, that they do not, as a rule, apply in a general way to all messages despatched at the same time, or, for instance, on the same day. Of these messages some reach their destination without any remarkable delay, while others are several days in transit, and do not arrive till after many telegrams of more recent date.

Nor are Government messages exempt from these strange delays, notwithstanding even the priority to which they are entitled. Thus the Government Telegrams from London to India, No. 3819 of the 4th December last, No. 5417 of the 7th, and 5981 of the 9th idem, were from 3 to 7 days on their way; and were passed in transit by many private Telegrams subsequently given into the London Offices.

As regards the mutilations, these are serious and of daily occurrence.

These facts are so numerous that they provoke the most lively complaints on all sides; from Government, the Chambers of Commerce, and the general public.

The Vienna Conference, in its sitting of the 13th July 1868, has recognized the evil, and recorded a determination to find and apply

the necessary remedy. An unanimous declaration to this effect was authoritatively entered on the minutes of proceedings.

The Indo-European Administration asks that this determination be realized, and presses the matter to the utmost of its power on the attention of the Administrations concerned.

I, Sir, for my part, beg that you will acquaint me of the steps which you have taken, or the works which you have put in execution to give effect to (*satisfaire*) the above Declaration.

Pray accept, Sir, the assurance of my high esteem.

The Director,

L. CURCHOD.

APPENDIX M.

PRECEDENCE TO THE TELEGRAMS OF REUTER'S TELEGRAM COMPANY, LIMITED, BY THE INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay, 13*th March* 1869.

To the Honourable Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT, C.S.I.,

Secretary to Government,

Indo-European Telegraph Department, Bombay,

SIR,—Statements having been made to the Committee of Management of the Chamber to the effect that Commercial Telegrams forwarded through the medium of Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, as well as the subscription Commercial Telegrams supplied by that Company to subscribers, are allowed by Government precedence of all other Commercial Telegrams transmitted between England and India,—I am directed to inquire whether these Statements are correct.

The fact that the Telegrams forwarded through Reuter's Company have for some time been received with greater rapidity and regularity than private messages, may have given rise to the impression that is pretty generally entertained; but in any case the Committee will be obliged by your informing them whether this impression is well founded or otherwise.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

No. 83 OF 1869.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 20*th March* 1869.

FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO THE SECRETARY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter dated 13th March 1869, I am directed to enclose, for the information of the

Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of a report by the Director-in-Chief of the Indo-European Telegraph, regarding the subject referred to in your letter under reply, which shows how far the Statements you allude to are founded on fact.

I have, &c.,

J. MACDONALD, Lieutenant Colonel,

Deputy Secretary to Government.

No. 113 OF 1869.

Bombay, 17th March 1869.

FROM THE CHIEF DIRECTOR, INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH,

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY.

SIR,—In reply to Mr. Taylor's letter to your address of the 13th instant, referred to me on this date, I have the honour to report that on passing through Kurrachee about a month ago, it was brought to my notice that precedence had been given on the Indo-European Lines to messages bearing the name of Reuter, which messages were not simply public news, but evidently private and for the convenience of particular parties.

2. Ascertaining the correctness of this statement from scrutiny, I telegraphed to Mr. Courtenay, Commissioner for the Telegraph at Constantinople, to take immediate measures for stopping such wholly unwarrantable procedure. Mr. Courtenay telegraphed the reply that it was done as required.

3. I take the opportunity of the present reference to forward some extracts from Mr. Courtenay's letters recently received on this subject :—

"*9th February* 1869.

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your telegram of yesterday which reached me about 1 P.M., and was immediately replied to by wire.

"I was glad to receive it, as it bore me out in the steps I had already taken, and which I laid before you in my No. 76 of 6th instant."

"*6th February* 1869.

"On the 2nd of January last, the following order was issued by the Ottoman Administration to their Inspectors and Chiefs of Stations in Asia and Europe :—

"'Directeur-Général aux Inspecteurs et aux Chefs de Stations, Turquie, Europe, et Asie.

"'Le Gouvernement Impérial ayant accordé le privilege de priorité aux dépêches de l'agence de publicité Reuter, je viens vous autoriser également de les considérer comme officielles et de leur accorder sur nos lignes le pas sur les dépêches privées: ces dépêches sont indistinctement signeés et adressées Vernard on Reuter.

"'*Consple*, 2 *Jany*. 1869.'

"In the Ottoman returns of messages received here from India from 1st to 10th January, I observed nothing, as all the messages were re-transmitted to Europe without delay, but in the returns from the 10th to the 20th it became apparent, 1st, that priority had been given on the Turkish Lines to messages coming from India addressed to Reuter, *London*; and 2nd, that several Indian merchants instead of sending their messages to their usual correspondents, had addressed them to Reuter, *London*, which leads me to presume that Reuter's agents in India have pointed out the advantages resulting from the above privileges.

"The consequences were, that these messages obtained an advantage of from 14 to 96 hours over those not addressed to Reuter. This delay of 14 to 96 hours, experienced by the other massages, occurred in the Pera Office, and was owing to a total interruption of several days on the lines between here and Nissa. Mr. Reuter's messages arrived during and after this interruption, and were forwarded on before the others, which, as already mentioned, had suffered a considerable detention.

"As soon as this discovery was made, I called on Feizi Bey to ask for an explanation and to point out to him that whatever privileges they might accord to messages originating in, or destined for Turkey, such could not apply to the Anglo-Indian traffic transiting through the Ottoman territory.

"Feizi Bey at once explained to me that the circular must have been misinterpreted, that it did not apply to Indian messages, and that he would set the matter right. * * * * *

"*P.S.*—2-30 P.M. I have just received the following:—

"'Directeur Général aux Inspecteurs et Chefs de Stations, Turquie, Europe, Asie:—

"'Je viens modifier ma circulaire No. 1 du 2 Janvier écoulé. Le privilége accordé à l'agence de publicité *Reuter* ne concerne que les depêches en provenance ou à destination des bureaux Ottomans, et *non* celles qui peuvent transiter per nos lignes, et qui doivent être considérées sur le même pied que les dépêches privées.

"'*Consple*, 6 *Fevrier* 1868.'"

4. Feizi Bey is the Director of the Ottoman Telegraph under the Minister of Public Works, Dawud Pasha.

I have, &c.,

F. J. GOLDSMID, Colonel,

Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

27th March 1869.

TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Indo-European Telegraph Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour by direction of the Committee of Management of the Chamber to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 83 of 1869, of the 20th instant, together with copy of a report from the Director-General of the Indo-European Telegraph, on the subject of my letter dated 13th idem.

In reply I am to express the acknowledgments of the Chamber for the interesting report which Colonel Goldsmid has so promptly made in reference to the complaints made on the subject of the priority of despatch accorded to Reuter's telegrams in Turkey.

At the same time I am directed to point out that the report leaves unanswered the question as to Reuter's telegrams of public news between England and India being allowed precedence of all private messages; and further it appears to the Committee from Colonel Goldsmid's report that though Reuter's telegrams have no precedence when passing through Turkey, they have precedence when despatched from that country—so that any telegrams Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, may send to Constantinople to their Agent there, for farther transmission, would thus have precedence over all others.

The Committee of Management will be obliged by your informing them on these points at your early convenience.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

No. 151 OF 1869.

In reply to the Secretariat reference just received, the undersigned has the honour to state that there has not, to his knowledge, been any legitimate or sufficient *authority* given for precedence to

news messages on the Indo-European Line generally. At the same time he cannot conceal his impression that a tacit consent to precedence has been and probably is accorded in outgoing messages to India.

It has been suggested to the Chief Director that this question be no longer left open; but that *all* Reuter's messages be treated as those of the general Public.

The Secretary's question put irrespectively of news messages will be replied to in communication with Mr. Courtenay.

F. G. GOLDSMID, Lieut.-Colonel.

Bombay, 3rd April 1869.

No. 111 OF 1869.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
Bombay Castle, 19th April 1869.

FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 27th March 1869, and in reply am directed to communicate the accompanying copy of a report by the Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph, No. 151, dated 3rd April 1869, on the question of Reuter's telegrams of public news between England and India being allowed precedence of all private messages.

I have, &c.,

J. MACDONALD, Lieutenant-Colonel,
Deputy Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
3rd May 1869.

TO THE SECRETRAY TO GOVERNMENT,
Indo-European Telegraph Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 111 of 1869, dated 19th ultimo, forwarding copy of a report by the Chief Director Indo-European Telegraph on the question raised in the Chamber's letter of 27th March, of Reuter's telegrams of public news between England and India being allowed precedence of all private messages.

In reply I am directed to state that while expressing their acknowledgments for Colonel Goldsmid's report, the Committee of Management regret to observe that it affords ample ground for the belief so generally entertained, that the telegrams forwarded by Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited, do in some unaccountable and unexplained manner receive precedence at some stage of transit over all other telegrams despatched.

Should this really prove to be the case, great injustice will have been done to Merchants and the public generally, and the Committee are at a loss to conceive on what grounds any such precedence as that presumed to be accorded to Reuter's Company can be justified.

If any person, Company or class is to have precedence, the telegrams of the Merchants certainly should be entitled to precedence over all others, for, as Government must be very well aware, mercantile telegrams are the chief source of the revenue of the Indo-European Telegraph Department.

But merchants seek no exclusive privileges; all they ask for is that the rule of "first come first served" be strictly applied without partiality or favour to any.

After the correspondence between Government and the Chamber on the question of press privileges in the transmission of messages in 1864-65,* and the declaration of the Government of India that no precedence was allowed on the Indo-European line, the Committee hardly expected to find the same question turning up again, though in a somewhat different from.

* See Chamber's Report for 1864-65, pages 49—54.

The Committee respectfully trust Government will lose no time in having the matter thoroughly investigated; and that they may receive early assurance that the irregular practices by virtue of which certain telegrams have hitherto been permitted to have precedence over others, have been altogether stopped.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

No. 154 OF 1869.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 2nd June 1869.

From Colonel W. F. MARRIOTT,

Secretary to Government,

To THE SECRETARY BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 3rd May 1869, and am directed to transmit the accom-

panying copy of a letter addressed under this date to the Government of India on the subject of the precedence given to Reuter's telegrams between England and India.

I have, &c.,

W. F. MARRIOTT, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

No. 154 OF 1869.

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 2nd June 1869.

FROM THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA,

Foreign Department—Telegraph.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit correspondence (as noted in the margin) touching the precedence given to Reuter's Telegrams.

Letter from the Secretary, Bombay Chamber of Commerce, dated 13th March 1869.
Letter from the Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph, No. 113, dated 17th March 1869.
Letter to Chamber of Commerce, No. 83, dated 20th March 1869.
Letter from Chamber of Commerce, dated 27th March 1869.
Report by the Chief Director, Indo-European Telegraph, No. 151, dated 3rd April 1869.
Letter to Chamber of Commerce, No. 111, dated 19th April 1869.
Letter from Chamber of Commerce, dated 3rd May 1869.

His Excellency in Council agrees with the Chamber of Commerce in thinking that no such privilege of precedence ought to be accorded. Any orders he might give to the Director at Kurrachee would be ineffective because the precedence must be given at the Offices of the Indian Lines. His Excellency in Council therefore begs to recommend that the Government of India should issue general instructions on the subject.

I have &c.,

W. F. MARRIOTT, Colonel,
Secretary to Government.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

12th June 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

INDO-EUROPEAN TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 154 of 1869, dated 2nd instant, handing copy of letter of same date to the Government of India, on the subject of the precedence given to Reuter's telegrams between England and India.

In reply I am respectfully to convey the thanks of the Chamber to Government for supporting the views set forth on this subject in my letter of 3rd May, and for recommending to the Government of India the issue of general instructions to give effect to the same.

Since I had the honour of addressing Government on the 3rd ultimo, the attention of the Committee of Management has been called to a letter addressed by Mr. Collins, Manager to Reuter's Company in Bombay, to Mr. Secretary Gonne, dated 19th May, which has been published in the Newspapers, in which it is stated that the Directors of the Company have resolved to discontinue a certain branch of their business, to set at rest "any doubts which may have been entertained of the proper use by the Company of *the privileges granted by the Indian and Ottoman Governments in favour of its daily public telegrams.*"

When I wrote to Government on the 3rd ultimo the Committee were in doubt whether Reuter's Company had really been granted any privileges of precedence, but the passage above-quoted removes all doubt in the matter by distinctly affirming that privileges had been granted by the Government of India.

The question at issue is, not whether the privileges said to have been granted have been properly used or otherwise, but why privileges should have been granted at all:—and I am respectfully to express the hopes of the Committee of Management that His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council will keep this matter before the Government of India till it is disposed of, in conformity with the views expressed in the letter from the Government of Bombay, dated 2nd instant.

I have &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

APPENDIX N.

FAMINE IN RAJPOOTANA.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

4th January 1869.

TO THE CHIEF SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, BOMBAY.

SIR,—Appeals from various quarters have been made to the Chamber of Commerce as to the expediency of something being done in the matter of a public subscription to raise funds for supplying the wants of the suffering population in districts North of the Bombay Presidency, threatened with scarcity which in some quarters is stated to be so severe as to amount to famine.

The members of the Chamber would heartily unite in promoting any public movement of this character if it were found to be necessary, but the Committee of Management have no reliable information on the subject before them that would justify in their opinion a public subscription of the character referred to.

I am directed by the Committee of Management respectfully to suggest to Government the expediency of accurate official information being obtained on a matter of such vital importance, and that when obtained it should be made public as speedily as possible for the prompt publication of reliable official information will be the only effectual means of allaying the apprehensions caused at the present moment by the exaggerated rumours spread abroad in various ways.

The only definite statement of any kind that has been laid before the Chamber is the appeal from a Committee at Ajmere, copy of which is herewith inclosed.

Though this question is one that must mainly be dealt with by the Government of India, the Committee of the Chamber believe His Excellency the Governor in Council takes an equally deep interest in a matter which appears to affect the means of living of no inconsiderable portion of the people, and they doubt not the views herein respectfully put forward will meet with his careful consideration.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

No. 110 OF 1869.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 16th January 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 4th instant, stating that the Members of the Chamber of Commerce would heartily unite in promoting any public movement to alleviate the distress at present prevailing in the Districts North of the Bombay Presidency, but that they have no reliable information on the subject, and suggesting the expediency of this Government obtaining and furnishing them with the same. In reply, I am directed to say that His Excellency in Council will have much pleasure in furnishing the Chamber with any information he may, from time to time, receive in the matter, but the districts in question not being subordinate to this presidency, the reports of the local Officers are not made to the Bombay Government but to the Government of India. Much of the information received, with an account of the steps taken by the authorites to mitigate the distress, has been published in the *Gazette of India.*

A copy of your letter will be submitted to the Government of India with a request that they will furnish this Government with any additional information they may possess for communication to the Chamber. I am, at the same time, directed to send to you copies of reports*from Major G. B. Tyrwhitt, Political Superintendent of Thurr and Parker, giving an account of the immigration into his districts of fugitives from Marwar ; and of correspondence † relating to scarcity in certain parts of Khandesh. These papers have already been placed at the disposal of the Press, and comprise all the information which has been received by this Government.

*Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 1623, dated 9th December 1868, with accompaniment.

Government Resolution No. 2438, dated 22nd December 1868.

Memorandum from the Commissioner in Sind, No. 1641 dated 14th December 1868, with accompaniments.

Government Resolution No. 7, dated 4th January 1869.

†Extract from the Proceedings of Government in the Revenue Department No. 4702, dated 15th December 1868.

2nd. In conclusion, I am to draw the attention of the Chamber to the telegram from Calcutta published in the Newspapers of the 11th instant, that at a Meeting of the Viceregal Council on the 4th instant,

it was resolved to double the contributions raised by private charity for the Famine-stricken Districts.

I have &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

For Chief Secretary to Government.

ABOO, *August 12th.*

MY DEAR SIR,—To obviate unavoidable delay in the Secretariat, I forward to you direct a copy of my letter to the Bombay Government.

Yours truly,

R. H. KEATINGE.

From the Governor General's Agent for the States of Rajpootana to the Secretary to the Government of Bombay (General Department), No. 695, dated Mount Aboo, 9th August 1869.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of a memorandum from your Office No. 1818, of 31st July, on the subject of distress in Marwar.

2. There is very great distress in Marwar ; a large portion of the population emigrated, and many thousands of them were supported in the poor-houses in the Ajmere and Mhairwarra Districts, and some at Neemuch and at Anadra under Mount Aboo.

3. Large bodies of Emigrants returned to Marwar early in June, hoping for rain, which did not fall until the latter part of July. These are the people who have suffered most severely.

4. Major Furlong is not President or Secretary of any Relief Committee, any communications from him must be mere private letters expressing his individual opinion.

5. Marwar being a Native State with a bad organized Government, no machinery exists for a general distribution of charity by European agency, or through the Durbar with any prospects of subscriptions being fairly disbursed, but at some one or two places European agency is available.

6. The Mahajun and Bunian community in Joudhpore, Palee, and several other large cities in Marwar have behaved exceedingly well, distributing much charity through the local Punches. I gather that the present movement has been originated by their brethren in Bombay. It is very much to be commended, but I do not consider that Government can beneficially interfere in it—and it will be well for European subscribers to understand that the main part of the charity must be disbursed only by the agency of the Mahajun Punchayets.

7. The Marwar Durbar has lately allotted one lac of Rupees, early to be expended by the Department of Public Works on the main lines of communication in that country. To carry out its intentions an additional Executive Circle has now been organized, and work is in progress in several places. This is I consider the best possible subscription the Marwar Durbar could grant. It has also subscribed to the surrounding poor-houses. Two-thirds of the land in Marwar is held by the great nobles; as a rule, they have looked after their poor cultivators fairly.

8. The loss of cattle in Marwar has been so great that it is estimated that one half the usual area will not be sown this year. I anticipate that high prices and some distress must, under the most favourable circumstances to agriculture, continue for 18 months more.

9. I append copy of a note to-day received from Colonel Brooke, Political Agent in Marwar, and with reference to it, would suggest that the best course would be for subscribers to intimate opposite their names whether they wished their subscriptions disposed of by European or Native Agency. The latter will, under the peculiar circumstances of the country, be best.

10. In conclusion, I would mention that reports received from several quarters during the last three days, indicate that, contrary to our expectations, the distress is increasing most rapidly, and has in many places reached the point of actual starvation. Prices are not falling. The Bombay subscriptions will, therefore, be well bestowed.

To obviate delay, I will send a copy of this letter direct to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

I have &c.,

R. H. KEATINGE,

Governor General's Agent.

Copy of a letter from Colonel Brooke, Political Agent Marwar, to Lieutenant Colonel Keatinge, Governor General's Agent, dated Aboo, August 11th 1869.

With reference to the letter from the Bombay Government, the Maharajah says that he will be happy to forward in any way the

purposes of the Fund raised in Bombay, or to carry out whatever we may propose regarding it, or to allow either you or I to adopt whatever measures we may deem advisable independently of himself. He could not receive himself anything from the Fund for distribution as that would be derogatory to his position, but he approves of the movement, of which he was already aware. He says the parties who have got up the subscription are well known, highly respectable firms, and those to whom the subscriptions have been forwarded are also men of character and standing, who will distribute the proceeds of the charity in an honourable and efficient manner, and that the grain food given will be obtained by them at a much more favourable rate than if purchased by other agency. Moreover that they would be suspicious of the action of any one connected with the Court, which would at once check subscriptions to the Fund which has already forwarded Rs. 10,000 to Palee, and Rs. 6,000 to Joudhpore. The Agents for the Fund at Joudhpore are Alumchund and Balkishen Tapreea, both well known and honourable men. At Palee and Joudhpore only cooked food is distributed, and no distinction is made regarding caste &c., which is what came under my own notice.

Perhaps it would be as well to let the Bombay Government and Chamber of Commerce know this, that no check may be given to the subscriptions under the impression that the Funds will not be properly administered. I am satisfied that whatever is given will be distributed to those for whom it is intended, and will tend to lessen the frightful starvation and misery which exists in every direction. If funds could be sent to Sojut, Mairta, and Bhallotra in addition to Joudhpore, Palee, and Erinpoora, it would be very desirable.

The Maharajah has consented to advance money for Erinpoora poor. He did not mention how much, but sanctioned at once Rs. 1,000, to be followed by other sums as required.

The Palee Punch send the able-bodied to work on the roads I will send in a day or two to Sojut to provide relief for the poor and infirm there.

No. 712 G. OF 1869.

The foregoing forwarded to James Taylor, Esquire, Secretary to the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, for information, with reference to his letter to the Government of Bombay, dated 23rd ultimo.

R. H. KEATINGE,
Governor General's Agent.

Rajpootana Agency,
Dated Mount Aboo, the 11th August 1869.

25 *ap*

No. 199 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

30th August 1869.

Colonel R. H. KEATINGE, V.C., C.S.I.,

Agent to the Governor General, Rajpootana, Aboo.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant, forwarding copy of your despatch of same date to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay, together with the accompaniment from Colonel Brooke, Political Agent in Marwar, and I am to express to you the acknowledgments of the Committee of Management of the Chamber for so promptly informing them as to the actual condition of affairs amongst the suffering people in Marwar and other parts in Rajpootana.

Public attention has been drawn to the subject by the publication of your despatches in the newspapers. An account for subscriptions in aid of the distressed has been opened at the New Bank of Bombay, and I hope to be able to advise you of a remittance in the course of a day or two, for the amount of such subscriptions as have been received, to be distributed for the relief of the distressed in such manner as may seem to you most expedient. Meantime,

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

TO SECRETARY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay.

From Colonel KEATINGE,

Aboo.

Service.

Pray ascertain and telegraph what funds are at my disposal for Marwar poor.

Present distress is terrible, but will probably not last long, as we have heavy rain and good account of crops.

R. H. KEATINGE,

9th September 1869. Governor General's Agent.

No. 203 OF 1869.

Copy of Telegram sent to Colonel Keatinge, 9th September 1869.

From BOMBAY. To ABOO.

From SECRETARY CHAMBER. To Colonel KEATINGE.

Rupees six thousand at your disposal. Will also ask Bombay Government to assist with balance of an old fund. Particulars by Post.

No. 211 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

28th September 1869.

Colonel R. H. KEATINGE, V.C., C.S.I.,

Agent to the Governor General, Rajpootana, Aboo.

DEAR SIR,—Since writing you on the 9th instant I have not had the pleasure of hearing from you, but the intelligence therein conveyed and the subsequent proceedings of the Bombay Government will have informed you that there is a considerable amount of funds at your disposal, which I hope will be found adequate to relieve the distress with which you have to cope.

Many reports are brought to the Chamber's Office by the Native Merchants connected with Marwar, Jeypore, and indeed all parts of Rajpootana,—reporting the greatest privations and terrible suffering amongst the people. In the Bickancer State too, it is said, the distress is of a most painful character. I enclose a note on this subject, the statements contained in which are certified to by most respectable merchants, and the Committee of the Chamber will be much obliged by your causing assistance to be given in the districts referred to in the note. I also enclose a Memorandum from a respectable Firm which has subscribed to the fund, asking us to send help to the place therein mentioned, and we shall be obliged by your causing inquiry and giving such help as you find necessary.

Colonel Arthur, Political Agent at Pahlunpoor, has written saying there are numbers from Marwar and elsewhere coming to that State for relief, and that he has no means at his disposal to help the distressed. Then a Missionary has been writing to the papers about the great distress at Deesa, and asking for subscriptions, but it is

thought here that the distress would be best met by subscriptions being made through you, and we shall be obliged by your doing this to the extent you may consider necessary.

I shall be obliged by your informing me whether you wish money sent to you in a Treasury order or whether it is enough for you to know the amount at your disposal, that you may draw for it through the Accountant General, Bombay.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

No. 467 of 1869.

From Colonel E. P. Arthur,

Political Superintendent, Pahlunpoor,

To The Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

Dated 16th September 1869.

Sir,—I observe in the Bombay "*Times*" that a Fund has been largely subscribed to by the Mercantile community of Bombay for the relief of the famine-stricken population of Marwar of whom numbers have come to Pahlunpoor; and their wants are relieved as much as possible by the Bania community, assisted by the Pahlunpoor Durbar.

If the Funds at your disposal will admit of your doing so, I would beg to suggest your sending any amount that can be spared to contribute to the relief of these people; many families returning to Marwar, and many coming from thence finding that no grain was obtainable in Marwar.

I have &c.,

EDWARD ARTHUR,

Political Superintendent, Pahlunpoor.

Pahlunpoor, Superintendent's Office,

16th September 1869.

No. 215 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
30th September 1869.

Colonel E. ARTHUR,

Political Superintendent, Pahlunpoor.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 16th instant, representing the distress in the Pahlunpoor State from the number of famine-stricken people from Marwar pressing upon you for relief and asking for any sum that can be spared from the funds in Bombay to enable you to give aid to the sufferers as far as the funds placed at your disposal will admit.

In reply I have the pleasure to enclose herewith a draft on the Ahmedabad Treasury in your favour for Rs. 500, which the Chamber will be obliged by your using for the relief of the distressed in such manner as you may consider best.

I have already written to Colonel Keatinge on the subject of your representation, and have suggested his placing loan funds at your disposal.

The receipt of the draft be so good as to acknowledge.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

APPENDIX O.

RAJPOOTANA RAILWAY PROJECTS.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

23rd January 1869.

To Colonel M. K. KENNEDY, R.E.,

Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Bombay.

SIR,—It was brought to the notice of this Chamber that the proposed route of the projected line of railway through Rajpootana, intended to connect Bombay *viâ* Guzerat and Rajpootana with Delhi and Northern India, had been opposed by the Governor General's Agent for the Rajpootana States, in a despatch addressed to the Government of India in the Public Works Department, as being inferior in importance, on commercial and other grounds, to a route which he himself suggested in preference.

The question thus raised being one of very great importance to the commercial interests of this part of India, the Committee of Management of the Chamber deemed it expedient to have an expression of opinion on the subject from the Rajpootana merchants and bankers resident in Bombay, and able to speak on the points raised by Colonel Keatinge, from their personal knowledge of the country.

Accordingly a few of the leading merchants and shroffs were invited to confer on the subject at a meeting called for this purpose, and held at the Chamber's offices, on 24th September last.

Though not more than eight or ten persons were specially invited, when the object of the meeting became known in the bazaar, it excited so much interest, that a large number of the Native merchants and shroffs from Rajpootana and other parts of Northern and Central India came to the meeting at the Chamber's offices at the hour appointed; and I have now the honour to forward herewith, for the information of Government, copy of the Minute of the conference which took place on that occasion.

When the conference with the Native merchants was held, the Committee of the Chamber knew only of Colonel Keatinge's despatch, dated 27th February 1868, from report; lately, however, a printed copy of it, together with other papers on the same subject, were supplied to the Chamber, and these have been under the consideration of the Committee.

In the 5th paragraph of the despatch referred to, it is stated that "the Agent Governor General has now had an opportunity of conversation with all the officers in Rajpootana who have much knowledge, and it is the almost universal opinion that the decision [of the Government of India Committee which sat in 1864] arrived at is wrong, and should be amended."

The decision of the Committee in question, as quoted in Colonel Keatinge's despatch, is to the effect that a line of railway "from Deesa through Marwar would pass through an extremely poor country, and is not recommended."

All the evidence the Chamber has been able to collect on the subject supports this opinion, and goes to establish the soundness of the decision arrived at by the Committee of 1864.

In paragraph 11 of Colonel Keatinge's despatch it is stated— "This line [from Deesa through Marwar] would have one great advantage—a most considerable trade exists along it, and traffic would come to the rail at every point to which it opened."

But no evidence is given by Colonel Keatinge of this considerable trade, and the opinion he has expressed is not supported by that of Native merchants intimately acquainted with the country.

The Minute of the conference, which I have now the honour to lay before Government, shows very clearly that there is no trade now existing of any consequence, except the trade of Pali with Guzerat and Bombay.

The old transit trade to Northern India, of which Pali was formerly the centre, after decaying for years, appears now to be gone beyond the possibility of recall.

The country between Pali and Ajmere is arid, sterile, and little better than a desert; it is moreover, very thinly populated, and in these circumstances it is not very easy to see how "traffic would come to the rail [if there were one] at every point to which it opened."

The proposed line from Wassud in Guzerat, *viâ* Neemuch, with the necessary branches to Ajmere, &c. will be the means of opening up a country with numerous populous towns and villages, and teeming with products seeking for markets.

According to the opinions of the Native merchants, it may also be made to serve the trade of Pali, the only place on the route recommended by Colonel Keatinge that could yield any traffic to speak of, in support of a line of railway through Marwar *viâ* Deesa.

I am therefore respectfully to request that His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council will do the Chamber the favour to forward copy of this letter, with the accompanying

Minute, to the Government of India, and the Committee respectfully trust he will urge on that Government and the Secretary of State for India in Council, the importance of giving early sanction to the proposed line *viâ* Wassud and Neemuch, as that best calculated to meet alike the requirements of the State, and the commercial wants of the great trading interests of this side of India.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

MINUTE of Conference with Native Merchants on Rajpootana Railway Schemes, held at the Offices of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, 24th September 1868.

A Conference with Native merchants and bankers from Rajpootana and Northern India resident in Bombay was held this day (Thursday), 24th, September 1868, at 2 P.M., at the offices of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, for the purpose of hearing their opinions, and conferring with them regarding the route for a railway through Rajpootana, proposed by Colonel Keatinge, Agent to the Governor General for the Rajpootana States, as being superior, on commercial and other grounds, to the route proposed from a point on the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway in Guzerat, *viâ* Neemuch, to Delhi and Agra, which had already been surveyed by a portion of the engineering staff of that company, and with reference to which an opinion had been previously expressed by a few of these merchants at a meeting at the Chamber's Offices in October 1866.

The following Native merchants and shroffs, amongst many others whose names were omitted to be noted, were present:—

Shewram Dowlutram.
Huzarimull Nursingdass.
Guneshdass Sobhagmull.
Sagunull Sardarmull.
Koondunmull Bhagwandass.
Tarrachund Seetaram.
Tarrachund Ramchunder.
Keerparam Heemutram.
Bhoodurmull Goruckram.
Khetseedass Hurmookhroy.
Anoopchund Guneshdass.
Ramdass Ramroy.
Nanisookdass Soobbagram.
Tarrachund Loonia.
Goolrazjee Sunggonee.
Goolrazjee Juggunnath.
Moteechund Sulokchund.
Hunmuntram Hurdavedass.
Juggonath Ramjus.
Tugunram Sewnarayen.
Gunneshdass Kisnajee.
Jowareemull Ramjeedass.
Jowareemull Dulsookrow.
Sewlall Moteel..ll.
Jayseeram Kissunram.
Heeralall Ramgopall.
Hurnarayen Maneckram.

Vurjeevundass Mahdowdass, Esq., and Sorabjee Shapoorjee Bengali, Esq., assisted at the conference as interpreters.

An outline map on a large scale, showing the route proposed by Colonel Keatinge from Ahmedabad, *viâ* Deesa and Serolce to Ajmere, and that which had already been surveyed by the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company, was placed on the table for inspection and for purposes of reference.

The Native merchants who were present, on being questioned as to the advantages that might be expected to accrue from a line of railway that would pass near Pali through Marwar to Ajmere, as sketched on the map, according to Colonel Keatinge's proposal, said a railway that would connect it with Bombay would be an excellent thing for Pali and the country near it, but that it would be too late now to hope to recover the whole of the great transit trade to the north of India, of which it had formerly been the centre.

Twelve years ago there existed a large transit trade in goods sent from Bombay to Pali for further transmission to Bowanee, to Delhi, and North India, and also to Umritsur and the Punjab. This trade had been steadily decreasing of late years, and now could scarcely be said to exist. It goes now by three different routes—by Kurrachee to the Punjab, by the G. I. P. Railway to Nagpore and Jubbulpore for farther despatch northwards, and in part *viâ* Calcutta.

Pali is no longer a place of residence for agents connected with the old transit trade to the north of India, but it has a large trade of its own in piece goods; it imports yarns also from Bombay, which it manufactures into cloth. Yarn is also spun at Pali, and it has an important trade in dyed cloth, the dye manufacture being carried on in the Pali districts.

The merchants, on being asked which they considered the best route for a railway through Rajpootana, on the supposition that the Indian Government would only have one line, readily admitted, with one or two exceptions, that if there could only be one railway the proposed line to Neemuch would be by far the best for the country generally.

It would go through populous and fertile districts that have never yet been opened up, and would create a great trade between Bombay, Guzerat, and local districts in Rajpootana, with which there is no direct trade at present.

The one or two merchants who dissented from the above opinions were those who had intimate connection with the Pali trade only, and wished the railway to pass through that city.

It was suggested to the Pali merchants that goods for Pali and the surrounding districts could be carried from Bombay to Ajmere by the proposed line *viâ* Neemuch; and that, as Ajmere was only about a hundred miles from Pali, they would still have their goods much quicker, and carried more cheaply, than by the present means of transit by a more direct route. They replied this would be quite

true as regards speed in transit, but that it would never answer to get their goods *viâ* Ajmere to Pali. The merchants said the transit duties in the Native State were so heavy that the trade could not bear them; that there was no proper road between Ajmere and Pali; that the goods could only be forwarded by camels or pack-bullocks; that large packages would require to be opened and made up in small packages to permit of their being forwarded; and that there was a transit charge of Rs. 12 on each package, however small.

The merchants pointed out that the railway *viâ* Neemuch would be of great service if a road were made from Pertabgur, which was a principal town in an important district, through which the railway would pass, to Oodeypoor and thence to Pali in a north-west direction, through an opening in the Aravelli range; they said this was not only practicable, but could be very easily made, and would be a great benefit to Pali, as it would thus be connected with the railway comparatively near a great centre of business, which would in all respects be preferable to the route between Pali and Ajmere, suggested above.

There was an unhesitating admission on all sides, including the Pali men, that if there was to be only one line of railway for Rajpootana, the line proposed from Wassud in Guzerat, *viâ* Neemuch to Delhi, was the best that could be chosen.

In reply to questions as to the little traffic which at present found its way from Rajpootana and certain districts in Central India to Bombay *viâ* Guzerat, it was stated that the heavy transit duties in the Guicowar's territory, and the frequent robberies, prevented the use of a route which in other circumstances would be preferred to any other. At present much of the opium and other articles of trade were forwarded by a circuitous route, that it might pass with safety through British territory, and it ultimately reached Bombay by the G. I. P. Railway. The merchants also pointed out that the proposed line from Wassud to Neemuch would touch or pass through a large portion of the opium-producing country.

The foregoing is the substance of the definite opinions expressed at a conference which was full of animation and excitement, from the interest taken in the subject by the Native gentlemen present, and which lasted from 2 to 4 P.M.

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

APPENDIX P.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION IN THE SOUTHERN MAHRATTA COUNTRY.

No. 154 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
July 2nd 1869.

To The Chief Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

Sir,—I have the honour, by direction of the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to forward the accompanying petition from the merchants and others whose names are attached thereto, and have to request you will be so good as to lay the same before His Excellency the Right Honourable the Governor in Council.

I have &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Petition.

To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir William Robert Seymour Vesey Fitz Gerald, G.C.S.I., Governor and President in Council.

The petition of the undersigned merchants of Bombay, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners having learned that a survey is being made with a view to connect Dharwar by rail with the sea at Carwar, have the honour to request, that before this line is definitely decided upon, a survey may be made of an alternative line, to connect the Southern Mahratta Country with Bombay, by a railway to meet the G. I. P. Railway line at Sholapore, or at some point between that place and Poona.

While entirely coinciding with the arguments that have been adduced by those favourable to the proposed Carwar and Dharwar line, as to the importance of opening up the rich and populous Southern Mahratta Country, and the advantages to Government of so doing, with the least possible delay, your petitioners beg respectfully to submit that there appears to their minds certain grave objections to the Dharwar-Carwar Railway route, viz:

1. The country between Carwar and Dharwar is, for the most part, uncultivated and uninhabited, and a railway, if made, will be dependent on its through traffic for support, while stopping, as it will, on the confines of the chief agricultural districts, it will not effectually open up the country.

2. It will necessitate the building of a new Ghaut line of railway—another "Incline," costly to construct and expensive to maintain and work.

3. Being a short, isolated line, it will be more expensive to work than a branch, in consequence of its having to maintain its own staff, plant, workshops, &c., &c.

The advantages of the proposed alternative line recommended by your petitioners to connect the Southern Mahratta Country with Bombay, by means of the G. I. P. Railway, would be—

1. Though of a greater length, the proposed line between Dharwar and Sholapore would pass through, in almost its entire course, a cotton and grain-producing country, populous and wealthy, which would supply a continued and increasing stream of local as well as through traffic to the railway.

2. It would utilize the Bhore Ghaut Incline, already constructed and maintained at so much cost, under Government guarantee, bringing an increased revenue to the Government guaranteed capital already invested.

3. The traffic could be carried on the whole year, without interruption, thus enabling the cotton of these districts to find an uninterrupted communication with the principal cotton market of India, and, no trans-shipment being necessary, the cotton would arrive in better condition than when coming by sea.

4. Such a railway would open up the important cotton producing-country between the G. I. P. Railway and Dharwar to all the advantages of railway communication; and bringing those districts into intimate connection with Bombay it would create a new and extensive market for British manufactures.

In addition your petitioners would merely refer to the great political advantages which would accrue to Government, from direct

railway communication between Bombay and the important military station of Belgaum, and the districts through which such a railway would pass.

It has come to the knowledge of your petitioners that the Dharwar-Carwar Railway scheme contemplates an eventual extension to the G. I. P. Railway. Your petitioners beg respectfully to suggest that even should the Dharwar-Carwar line be ultimately considered desirable, it would be more effectual in opening up the country, as well as less expensive, to first construct the line between Sholapore and Dharwar.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Sd.) Ewart, Latham & Co.
„ Campbell, Mitchell & Co.
„ Finlay, Clark & Co.
„ Volkart Brothers.
„ Framjee, Sands & Co.
„ H. Bomanjee, Touche & Co.
„ Killick, Nixon & Co.
„ A. C. Gumpert & Co.
„ H. Clason & Co.
„ Pelly & Co.
„ Geo. W. Wheatley & Co.
„ Alsen, Riebe & Co.
„ L. Kühn & Co.
„ Coupland & Co.
„ Jules Siegfried & Co.
„ Martin, Young & Co.
„ J. C. Bushby & Co.
„ Robinson & Co.
„ Bell, Ventz & Lucius.
„ Geo. S. King & Co.
„ Geo. Lockhart & Co.
„ G. Sigg & Co.
„ E. Mionnett & Co.
„ E. D. Sassoon.
„ J. N. Wadia's Sons & Co.
„ Young & Co.
„ Kunkler, Preiswerck & Co.
„ Peel, Cassels & Co.

(Sd.) W. & A. Graham & Co.
„ Finlay, Scott & Co.
„ The London, Asiatic & American Co., Limited.
„ Wallace & Co.
„ Lawrence & Co.
„ Gaddum & Co.
„ Burstall, Russell & Co.
„ Jefferson, Campbell & Co.
„ Macnee, Thomsen and Warneken.
„ Rennie, Scovell & Co.
„ B. & A. Hormarjee.
„ Hill, Pollock & Co.
„ John Farrar & Co.
„ B. H. Cama.
„ L. Narayen & Co.
„ Vussonjee Goculdass & Co.
„ Edward Bates.
„ Hutchison, Dods & Co.
„ A. Blascheck & Co.
„ Stearns, Hobart & Co.
„ G. F. Pim & Co.
„ Lyon & Co.
„ Sir Chas. Forbes & Co.
„ Leggatt & Co.
„ Watson, Bogle & Co.
„ Planque, Vinay & Co.

APPENDIX Q.

CUSTOM HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

No. 137 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

11*th June* 1869.

To the Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Sir,—Various representations have been made to the Chamber on the subject of the inadequacy of the existing godown and shed accommodation at the Custom House to meet the present and steadily increasing wants of the growing commerce of this port.

The great increase in the imports of piece goods and other articles overland has especially necessitated applications to the Commissioner of Customs for further accommodation, which at present it is quite out of his power to comply with.

The ground covered by the ruins of the Post Office might very easily, and at little cost, be covered in and made over to the Commissioner of Customs; and if this were speedily done it would enable him to meet, to a considerable extent, the wants, in reference to covered accommodation at the Custom House, which at present are so keenly felt.

Nearly five years ago a Committee was appointed by Government to consider the question of a site for a new Custom House, with a view to affording increased facilities to the trade of the port in the vicinity of the locality which is its leading centre. And I am directed by the Committee of Management respectfully to inquire whether the proceedings of the Committee in question resulted in any practical proposal which had the sanction of Government, and if so whether there is any probability of the proposal being carried out at an early date.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

II.—C. W. Revenue Buildings.

Godowns for the Custom-House.

No. 522 C. W.—1622 of 1869.

Public Works Department.

Bombay Castle, 3rd July 1869.

Transfer from the Revenue Department, No. 2442, dated 17th June 1869.

Of a letter from the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay, pointing out the inadequacy of the existing godown and shed accommodation at the Custom House to meet the present and steadily increasing wants of the growing commerce of Bombay; suggesting that if the ground covered by the ruins of the Post Office be covered in, and made over to the Commissioner of Customs, it would enable that officer to meet, to a considerable extent, the wants in reference to covered accommodation at the Custom House; inquiring whether the proceedings of the Committee appointed by Government to consider the question of a site for a new Custom House have resulted in any practical proposal which has the sanction of Government, and, if so, whether there is any probability of the proposal being carried out at an early date.

Resolution.—The Superintending Engineer Presidency Division should be called on for a plan and estimate for utilizing the area of the old Post Office for Custom House purposes. This should be done in communication with the Commissioner of Customs.

2. A copy of the proceedings of the Committee published in Government Resolution No. 1587 C. W.—2572, dated 20th December 1865, should be forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce, who should be informed that the proceedings were made public at the time, and that there is no present intention to change the site of the Custom House.

W. A. BAKER, Captain, R.E.,
Under Secretary to Government.

To The Revenue Department, Secretariat.

The Superintending Engineer P. D.

The Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce. (With copy of Government Resolution No. 1587 C. W.—2572, dated 20th December 1865.)

II.—C. W. LANDS.

Site for a New Custom House and for an Ordnance Wharf.

No. 1587 C. W. / 2572 OF 1865.

Extract from the Proceedings of Government in the Public Works Department, dated 20th December 1865.

Read the following letter from the Committee appointed by Government to consider the best site for a New Custom House and for an Ordnance Wharf, No. 3025, dated 25th November 1865 :—

No. 1172 C. W. / 2183, dated 13th October 1865.

1. A. F. Bellasis, Esq., President, Commissioner of Customs.
1. A. T. Crawford, Esq., Municipal Commissioner of Bombay.
3. Colonel A. DeLisle, R.E., Consulting Engineer for Railways.
4. Lieut.-Colonel Worgan, Inspector General of Ordnance.
5. *A. J. Hunter, Esq., of Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co.
6. *James Bogie, Esq., of Messrs. Wallace & Co.

* Selected by the Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

We have the honour, in reply to Government Resolution in the Public Works Department as per margin, to state that the following gentlemen met in Committee on the 3rd instant, to consider the best site for a New Custom House and for an Ordnance Wharf.

2. The Committee having considered the proposed site of a New Custom House in Moody Bay, are of opinion that it would have the following advantages :—

I. That the New Custom House would be built on an improved plan with all modern appliances, of Tramways, commodious Wharves, and roomy Warehouses.

II. That it would be near to the Terminus of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company, but as this Terminus is merely a Passenger Station, it would not be an important advantage. Moreover goods are not usually forwarded direct from the Harbour upcountry, nor brought direct from the Railway Station and sent direct on boardship.

3. The disadvantages are—

I. That the sea frontage would be an open Wharf, exposed to the force of the monsoon, where cargo-boats could not lie during three or four months in the year.

II. That there are no Basins in this Wharf, and therefore it would be necessary to build a break-water in front of it. The practicability of building this break-water is, the Engineers state, an open question, and that it would cost a large sum there is no doubt.

III. That along the extreme length of this Wharf there would only be one opening for the egress and ingress of carts and carriages without crossing the railway line.

IV. The distance of the new Wharf from the centre of Trade and Commerce.

4. The Committee are further of opinion that the site of the present Custom House, coloured pink, is admirably situated for all purposes of trade, and has the following other advantages:—

I. It might be extended to the north by enclosing all the land, wharves, and buildings, now occupied by the Arsenal Department up to the Castle Walls, and coloured green in the plan. The small piece coloured dark-green is in front of the Powder Magazine, and this Lieutenant Colonels De Lisle and Worgan have suggested should be pallisaded off. In this suggestion the Committee concur.

II. The extension to the south by enclosing the portion of the Dockyard included in Captain Fuller's project of deepening the three slips, and converting them into landing Basins with wharves, coloured yellow. This would be a most important extension, as it would enable the Commissioner of Customs to divide the Import and Export Trade, which is now, from want of space, mixed up, and causes great confusion.

III. The making over to the Custom House the present Post Office, coloured orange. As this is the next-door building to the Custom House, it would be a most natural addition, and it would make an excellent bonded warehouse, which is at present a great desideratum.

IV. A line from A, the south corner of the Post Office, to B, the corner of the Castle, would give a magnificent frontage for a handsome façade for the Custom House, standing on the proposed eastern boulevards. A portion of the old building might be utilized and a portion pulled down and rebuilt, but this would be an after-question for the Architect and Engineer to decide.

V. The Committee would recommend a new Pier to be constructed, marked D on the plan. This would form a fine basin, and would give much additional wharfage and landing accommodation. The Pier, 100 feet wide, would be in the same line as the Government Moody Bay Reclamation, and would form one of the finest landing wharves in Bombay, and in the event of war could be easily converted into a formidable and commanding battery. Or as Lieutenant Colonel DeLisle suggests, a permanent Battery might be placed at the end on the site marked *d*.

VI. The old pier might with great advantage be widened, and a new pier on screw piles might be easily erected on the sites marked E and F on the Plan, coloured purple.

5. With these extensions, additions, and improvements, the Committee consider the present Custom House might be made to contain all the necessary requirements of the increasing trade of the Port, and at a much smaller expense than the cost of the proposed Custom House in Moody Bay, especially if the great value of the land there assigned by Government for the new Custom House be taken as a set-off-against the charges of the above proposed extensions and improvements to the present Custom House.

6. In regard to the Ordnance Wharf and premises, coloured green, and alluded to in item 1, the Committee propose to provide for these in the angle between the north-east of the Sun-dial Bastion of the Castle and the Mint enclosure, and coloured blue in the Plan, with the new landing basin marked E. The Ordnance Department would thus have the whole of the Castle as at present, and instead of the ground coloured green they would have the ground coloured blue, and they would have an improved landing wharf at the basin E, most conveniently situated either to take their stores into the Castle by a postern gate already in existence, and which might be enlarged, or to take them to the Railway Terminus close by. This, with the Grand Arsenal at Kirkee, the Committee presume would amply provide for the wants of the Ordnance Department in Bombay. Part of the basin E would form a good coal wharf for the Mint, which is much required.

RESOLUTION.—The proposals of the Committee appear to Government to be sound, and His Excellency the Governor in Council desires that Colonel DeLisle will have an approximate general Estimate prepared, including the new Custom House, a design for which by Mr. Brodrick is shortly expected from England. The design has been drawn from information given to that gentleman by the Honourable Mr. Erskine, Mr. A. D. Robertson, and Mr. Hope.

2. Against the cost of the proposed works should be set the probable value of the land in Moody Bay, which will be no longer needed for the Custom House.

3. The thanks of Government should be conveyed to the Committee for their report.

APPENDIX R.

NON-WORKING DAYS AND HOLIDAYS AT THE CUSTOM HOUSE.

BOMBAY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

25th November 1868.

L. REID, ESQ.,

Acting Commissioner of Customs, Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce to request you will be good enough to favour me with a reply to the following questions :—

On what days, Sundays excepted, is the Custom House closed to all business?

Are there days on which the Custom House is partially open for business, such as the entering of Exports, and all or any of the Shipping Bunders closed—so that shippers have no opportunity of sending off cargo—if so, what days?

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

BOMBAY, OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS,

30th November 1868.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—In reply to your letter, dated 25th instant, I have the honour to state, for the information of the Committee of Management of the Chamber of Commerce, that the only days (Sundays excepted) on which the Custom House is wholly closed are—

CHRISTMAS DAY,
NEW YEAR'S DAY,
GOOD FRIDAY,
QUEEN'S BIRTH DAY,

on which days no work of any kind is permitted, except under special permission, either on the Bunders or Wharves, and no Cargo is allowed to be received on board of, or discharged from, vessels in the Harbour.

Half Holidays are allowed on Saturdays to the members of the establishment and on Hindoo Holidays, particularly when the General Treasury is closed, when no Collections, of course, are received at the Custom House, provision being, on all such occasions, made for the despatch of emergent business, and free goods, as well as goods on which duty has been paid, are always passed, both for Import and Export, up to 4 P.M. The landing and shipment of goods from the Wharves and Bunders, and the unloading and discharge of Vessels are, however, in no way affected by this partial closing of the Custom House, and work is, as usual, permitted from sunrise to sunset.

I have, &c.,

L. REID,

Officiating Commissioner of Customs.

APPENDIX S.

ERECTION OF A LIGHT ON THE GREAT BASSES ROCK, CEYLON.

No. 4004 of 1868.

To The Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce,

Bombay.

Bombay, Office of Commissioner of Customs,

19*th December* 1868.

Sir,—In forwarding copies of the accompanying correspondence on the subject of erecting a Light-house on the Great Basses Rocks, off Ceylon, and the imposition and collection of a slightly increased toll in Indian Ports to defray the expenses and cost of maintenance of the Light-houses, I shall feel obliged by your favouring me with the opinion of the Chamber on the subject at an early date.

I have, &c.,

L. REID,

Officiating Commissioner of Customs.

No. 3331.

Government of India.

Financial Department, Fort William,

The 30*th November* 1868.

Read the following:—

India Office, London, 28*th October* 1868.

Financial No. 443.

To His Excelency the Right Honourable

The Governor General of India in Council.

Sir,—I forward herewith for any observations you may have

Letter dated	7th September 1868,	H 443, and, enclosure.	to make thereon,
,,	19th ,,	H 3393, and, enclosure.	copies of letters*
,,	3rd ,,	H 3483, and, enclosure.	from the Board

of Trade, with their enclosures, on the subject of erecting a Light-

house on the Great Basses Rocks off Ceylon, and the imposition and collection of a slightly increased Toll in Indian Ports to defray the expenses and cost of maintenance of the Light-house.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

No. II 443.

BOARD OF TRADE (HARBOUR DEPARTMENT),

Whitehall S. W., September 7th, 1868.

TO THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, INDIA OFFICE.

SIR,—With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of erecting a Light-house on the Great Basses Rocks off Ceylon, I am directed by the Board of Trade to enclose a memorandum with proposals for undertaking the work, and as the imposition and collection of a slightly increased Toll in Indian Ports will probably be a necessary condition, I am to request that you will inform the Board of Trade whether, if the proposals are adopted, the Secretary of State for India in Council will see any objection to the levying in Indian Ports of the additional Toll mentioned in the Memorandum, or of such other increased Toll as may be necessary in order to provide the requisite Funds.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) T. H. FARRER.

MEMORANDUM ON THE GREAT BASSES LIGHT-HOUSE.

1. It is scarcely necessary to urge the importance of this work. Its position, about 10 miles off the S. E. corner of Ceylon at the turning point of Ships bound to or from the Bay of Bengal, the great and increasing trade which passes it, the futile but costly attempts to erect a Light-house there in 1854-1858, the urgent demand for it then and still constantly made by the Trade and the Local Authorities and the opinions of every sailor who has considered the matter—all lead to the conclusion that the Light ought to be erected, if possible, and that the cost is a small consideration compared with the benefit it will confer.

2. It is not only or even chiefly a question of safety to vessels which might but for the Light be wrecked there. It is a question of speed and convenience for every vessel which passes the Rock. These vessels must now, more especially having regard to the variable currents, give it a wide berth and lose valuable time. If the rocks

were lighted they would make for it, and it would be a guide and a security instead of a terror and a danger. With the increase of fast steamers this is a most important consideration.

3. A Light ship has been successfully placed on the Little Basses, another outlying danger of a similar kind at a short distance to the N. E. But this does not lessen the need for a Light-house on the Great Basses.

Ships cannot, especially when bound from the S. W. make Little Basses with certainty or safety when there is another outlying danger unmarked in their path. If both were lighted their course would be sure and safe. Indeed it may be said with truth that the expenditure on the Little Basses is an argument for further expenditure on the Great Basses, since the one Light is of comparatively little use without the other. It is also to be remembered that a Light-house can be seen much further than a Light ship.

4. There has been a long correspondence between the Board of Trade, the Colonial Office, the Government of the Colony, and the Trinity House upon the subject. All of them are willing that the work shall proceed; all except the India Office show an active desire to forward it.

The India Office will consent to the imposition of a toll to be levied in Indian Ports. But beyond this they appear to take little interest, and their principal or only care is to avoid incurring any expense for the Light. It is unnecessary to refer at length to this correspondence. The principal questions it raises are:—

A. What is to be the plan and character of the Light-house?

B. What will be its cost?

C. How is the money to be procured?

D. By whom shall the work be done?

5. As regards the plan and character of the Light-house. According to Mr. Gordon's unsuccessful plan, there was to have been a stone base and an iron tower. The materials for these are now lying at Galle, and are available.

But the opinions of the Trinity House and their Engineer, as well as of Colonel Fraser, R.E., who has erected a Light for the Indian Government on the Alguada Reef, and who has made a valuable Report on the Great Basses, are strongly against the use of Iron. The professional officers of the Board of Trade have been of the same opinion, and the experience and practice of the other Light-house Boards in Great Britain leads to the same conclusion. Iron is cheaper, but less trustworthy, and as far as present knowledge goes less durable than stone. Further, the experienced Engineer of

the Trinity House, Mr. Douglass, has stated his opinion that Gordon's Iron Tower might not be safe, and that the accommodation for the Light-keepers in the stone basement would be very bad, but whilst both Colonel Fraser and Mr. Douglass deprecate the use of the Iron Tower, both would use the stone now lying at Galle, and both would construct the whole Tower of stone sent, or to be sent from England. Both have given elaborate plans and estimates, Colonel Fraser's plans having been submitted to Mr. Douglass, before he (Mr. D.) made his own. They agree in their general features, and disagree in certain particulars into which, being purely engineering questions, it is not necessary here to enter. Colonel Fraser's opinion is of great weight. He has paid much attention to the subject of Light-houses, he has, as above mentioned, erected an equally difficult Light-house on the Alguada Reef, in a somewhat similar situation, and has experience of the peculiarities of the climate and of Oriental workmen; on the other hand Mr. Douglass has, in the erection of the Bishop, the Smalls, the Hanois, the Wolf, and other works on the Coast of England, had unrivalled experience in the construction of works of this character, and has besides in the nautical skill of the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House (who entirely approve his design), as well as in their Establishment, very important resources.

In deciding between different plans the further question "Who shall undertake the work?" is an extremely important element.

Upon this question, which is more fully discussed below, it is sufficient here to observe that if, as has been suggested, the Indian Government could have been induced to take up the work, Colonel Fraser and his plan might have been preferred by them. As things are, this is out of the question, and on the whole it is scarcely to be doubted that the plan of Mr. Douglass and the Trinity House is the one which the Government should adopt. Into the details of that plan it is unnecessary to enter. It can be given *in extenso* if necessary.

After what is stated above with respect to Iron and Stone structures, it is unnecessary to refer to various offers and suggestions which have been made to the Board of Trade by various persons to erect an Iron Light-house of piles or otherwise, for comparatively low sums.

6. As regards the probable cost.

Excluding for the reasons above given the cheap plans for an Iron Structure, two careful Estimates for a Stone Tower have been placed before the Board of Trade, the one by Colonel Fraser, the other by Mr. Douglass and the Trinity House. Colonel Fraser's estimate for the execution of his own design is £57,414, a sum which Mr. Douglass apprehends would be scarcely sufficient to carry out that design. Mr. Douglass' estimate, the details of which can

be given if required, is in round numbers £65,000. This includes a deduction for the sale of plant, &c. of £14,000 or upwards. As this is a large sum, and as moreover nothing is included for remuneration to the Engineer, it may be safer to take the Estimate as £70,000. In addition to this there will be the cost of maintenance, which as a Tender for the Little Basses Light ship is already provided for, and as that Tender can do the service for both Establishments, should not exceed £600 a year, the cost of maintaining a Rock Light-house in this country.

7. As regards the source from which the money is to come.

There are several possible sources.

The Imperial Treasury might pay. But as the Light is only for the benefit of the Trade which passes it, and as that Trade is Foreign as well as British, and East Indian more than either, there seems to be no reason why the Tax-payers in Great Britain should be made to pay for it.

The Government of India might pay for it in part, if not altogether; but this is what they have resolved not to do.

The Ceylon Government might pay for it—so far as regards their own Trade, this would be fair. But their Trade is but a fraction of that which passes the Light, and it would not be right to call upon a comparatively small Colony to pay the whole expense of a Light which is erected principally for the benefit of passing Trade.

If indeed these three Governments would each contribute their quota a simple arrangement might be effected which would save the complication of a passing Toll, but this is hopeless.

There is therefore but one source to fall back upon, viz., a Toll upon the ships which pass and derive benefit from the Light; such a Toll can be levied under 18 and 19 Victoria, Cap. 91. It is complicated, and is not perfectly fair, since it does not touch the comparatively few ships which derive benefit from the Light, but which do not enter British Ports. But it is the only practicable source.

8. Moreover it is in existence at the present time; a Toll of 1*d.* per Ton is levied on all ships which pass the Little Basses Light and which enter or leave British Ports. The ships which pass the Great Basses would be the same. The net amount collected in the last year for which the accounts are made up, viz., from April 1867 to March 1868, was £6,535, and as the Toll is increasing with the increase of Trade, the future average amount may be estimated as probably reaching £7,000 a year or upwards. If the present Toll were increased by ¼*d.* a ton, the probable income would be £8,750 or in round numbers from £8,000 to £9,000 a year. If it were increase by ½*d.* the increased amount would be £10,500.

The present charge upon this income is as follows:—

The present expense of maintenance of the Little Basses Light ship is about £2,000 a year. When the Tender now building is completed this amount will be somewhat reduced. But there will be needed for the purpose of repairs and renewals of the Light ship and Tender about 5 per cent. on the cost, say £1,400 a year, making with the present outlay a total for the maintenance and repairs of the Little Basses Establishment of £3,400 a year.

The original cost of the present Light ship was £11,965.* This was paid by a vote of Parliament. In the estimates for the past and present years are included £13,500 for a spare Light ship and £3,000 for a Tender now building. The whole original cost of the Little Basses Establishment may therefore be taken at £28,465, or in round numbers at £28,500. If this sum with interest is to be repaid to the Exchequer out of the Tolls, and if the rate of 5¼ per cent. be taken for the annual repayment, including interest and the instalments of principal after the precedent of Loans by the Public Works Loan Commissioners for Harbour purposes, the charge on this account will be £1,496, or say £1,500 a year.

The estimate for the additional expense in maintaining the Great Basses when built may be put at £600 a year, as the Tender for the Little Basses will serve both Establishments.

The estimate for the cost of erection is £70,000. If this is repaid with interest in the manner above suggested, viz., by an annual payment of 5¼ per cent. for interest and instalments of principal, the annual charge on this account will be £3,675.

The whole annual charge will then be—

Original cost of Little Basses.....	£1,500
Ditto Great Basses.....	3,675
	£5,175
Maintenance and Repairs.	
Little Basses.....	3,400
Great Basses.....	600
	£4,000

Total annual cost £9,175, and of this £5,175 would cease as soon as the principal is repaid.

It is obvious that the present Toll of 1*d.* a Ton, which is estimated to give £7,000 a year, with an addition of ½*d.* a Ton which would give £10,500, would be ample security for the whole of the proposed outlay, and looking to the increase of trade it is probable that an addition of ¼*d.* a Ton would be sufficient for this purpose.

9. Assuming the security to be deemed sufficient, it remains to determine in what manner the money can be procured.

The Board of Trade have power under 18 & 19 Victoria, Cap. 91, to borrow money for such a purpose from the Public Works Loan Commissioners, on the security of these Tolls. But they have not done so in the case of the Little Basses Light ship, but have procured the necessary sums by votes of Parliament. It is for consideration whether this will not be the simpler and better method in the case of the Great Basses, more especially if the repayment in both cases is to be made in the same manner. This however is a point for the consideration of the Treasury rather than of the Board of Trade. The money will be wanted from time to time for three or four years and a considerable proportion, say £30,000, will be needed for plant, &c. in the first year.

10. The last question to be considered is, by whom the work shall be done.

The Indian Government is out of the question.

The Ceylon Government are willing to undertake it if funds are provided, or if the requisite Tolls are handed over to them. But the Board of Trade are unable under the Act 18 and 19 Victoria, Cap. 91 to hand over the Tolls to a Colonial Government without account and without control. Nor would they think it right to do so. There might in the course of a few years be a large surplus and in that case to give the Toll to the Local Government would be to enable them to levy an objectionable "Passing Toll" on the Trade navigating the adjacent seas. And if the Colonial Government were to take the Tolls with a liability to account to the Board of Trade and subject to the control of that Board, they would simply be Agents, and there would be no advantage in placing the work in their hands. The work must therefore be done by the Home Government, and it only remains to consider whether it shall be done by the Board of Trade directly, or by the Trinity House, who have offered to undertake any trouble and responsibility in the matter which the Government may think it right to throw upon them. The Board of Trade have, no doubt, greater experience than when they made their former rash and unfortunate attempt to erect this Light-house. But they have nothing like the experience of the Trinity House, nor is the department organized for the construction of such works. In their own Engineer; in the choice they are able to make of a most promising local Engineer already in their service; in their habit of executing works of this kind; of making contracts for vessels, plant, and materials; in manning and managing their numerous vessels, the Elder Brethren possess resources and facilities which are not at the immediate disposal of the Board of Trade. The conclusion seems to be that they should be asked to undertake the work.

11. It remains to be considered what should be their relations to the Board of Trade, and to the Government of Ceylon, and to the

Colonial Office. As regards the first of these the proper course seems to be that the Board of Trade, having accepted the plans and Estimates of the Trinity House, should leave that body ample discretion in carrying them into effect.

They will of course produce accounts that will satisfy the Board of Trade and the audit office; they will report from time to time on the progress of the work, and if circumstances should require any considerable change in the plans or estimates, they will seek the approval of the Board of Trade. But in the execution of the work they must be unfettered.

As regards the Government of Ceylon, it does not seem necessary that the Governor of the Colony as such should take any part. But it is of extreme importance that the Trinity House and the Board of Trade should be able to rely upon some one of high character and position who shall be able to place local resources and the aid of local officers at their disposal to settle disputes if unfortunately they should arise, to report if things go wrong, and to exercise in case of necessity summary powers extending to the dismissal of persons employed on the work. Such a person can be found in the Governor only, and the present Governor expresses his willingness to undertake the responsibility, and his anxiety to get the work completed during his tenure of office. For the above purposes his correspondence should be direct with the Trinity House, unless there is any thing which he thinks it necessary to bring to the notice of the Colonial Office or the Board of Trade.

12. In concluding this memorandum it may be desirable to notice and reply to objections which may be made on the ground of the failure of the former attempt to erect this Light.

That failure is readily explained.

The work was rashly undertaken by the Board of Trade, without experience of the difficulties of such works. The Engineer employed was not equal to the task, the plans were not satisfactory, and above all there was an entire want of that energy and sense of responsibility in the local conduct of the undertaking which are essential to success.

At present matters are very different. Not only has the experience of the Home Light-house Boards in the erection of similar structures increased, but Colonel Fraser's success in erecting an equally difficult work on Alguada Reef has shown that what can be done in this country can be done in the Indian Seas. It is now proposed to place the undertaking in the hands of a body of great experience in precisely similar works, and of Engineers who have shown by what they have already done that they have not only the skill but the energy and character for carrying such works to a successful conclusion.

And it is to be remembered that neither Colonel Fraser, nor the Engineer of the Trinity House, nor the Elder Brethren entertain a doubt of the success of the undertaking.

No. H 3393.

BOARD OF TRADE (HARBOUR DEPARTMENT),

Whitehall, S. W., 19*th September* 1868.

TO THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE, INDIA OFFICE.

SIR,—I am directed by the Board of Trade, with further reference to the letter from this Office of the 7th instant, respecting the erection of a Light-house on Great Basses Rock, Ceylon, to transmit to you for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter from the Elder Brethren of the Trinity House, stating that they are willing to accept the conduct of the undertaking.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) THOMAS GRAY.

Trinity House, London, 12*th September* 1868.

To T. H. FARRER, ESQ.,

Board of Trade.

SIR,—Having laid before the Board your letter of the 7th instant (H 443), enclosing copy of a memorandum setting forth the present position of affairs with respect to the erection of a Light-house on the Great Basses Rocks, off the Island of Ceylon, and which, as stated in your letter, is the result of an interview between Sir Hercules Robinson, Governor of Ceylon, yourself, and the Deputy Master of this Corporation, with Mr. James N. Douglass, C.E., their Engineer.

I am directed to acquaint you that the Elder Brethren are fully impressed with the great importance of the proposed work to the interest of Commerce, and to the safety of Shipping Navigation in that part of the world, and that they feel assured from the experience gained in the erection of Light-houses in equally exposed positions around our own Coasts that the work can be satisfactorily performed.

Feeling that experience so gained should be applied as far as possible to the benefit of the shipping interests of this country

the Elder Brethren direct me to request that you will acquaint the Board of Trade that they willingly accept the conduct of the undertaking as proposed in the memorandum, and that upon receiving your authority to commence they will take the preliminary arrangements into consideration.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) J. INGLIS.

II. 3483.

BOARD OF TRADE (HARBOUR DEPARTMENT),

Whitehall, S. W., 3rd October 1868.

TO THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,

INDIA OFFICE.

SIR,—With reference to previous correspondence respecting the erection of a Light-house on Great Basses Rock, Ceylon, I am directed by the Board of Trade to transmit to you for the information of the Secretary of State for India in Council, the enclosed copy of a letter from the Colonial Office upon the subject.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. C. TREVOR.

Downing Street, 19th September 1868.

TO THE SECRETARY, BOARD OF TRADE.

SIR,—I am directed by the Duke of Buckingham and Chandos to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant, enclosing a memorandum embodying the decision which has been arrived at in regard to the construction of a Light-house on the Great Basses Rocks.

In reply, I am to state to you for the information of the Lords of the Committee of Privy Council for Trade, that His Grace entirely approves of the proposals contained in the memorandum, and that he has authorized Sir H. Robinson to assume the responsibility defined in the 11th paragraph of that paper.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) F. F. ELLIOT.

Ordered that a copy of the above be sent for report to the Marine Department, the Governments of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, and to the Chief Commissioner, British Burmah.

(Signed) G. BATTEN,
Under Secretary to the Government of India.

No. 4686 OF 1868.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 14th December 1868.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Customs for the favour of his opinion and report.

(Signed) F. R. S. WYLLIE,
Acting Secretary to Government.

No. 13 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

26th January 1869.

To L. REID, Esq.,

Officiating Commissioner of Customs, Bombay.

SIR,—In reference to your letter of the 19th ultimo, submitting copies of correspondence on the subject of erecting a Light-house on the Great Basses Rocks, off Ceylon, and requesting the opinion of this Chamber as to the expediency of the imposition of a slightly increased toll in Indian ports to defray the cost of construction and maintenance.

In reply, I am directed by the Committee of Management to state for your information, that this matter has been for some time under the consideration of the Chamber; and I am to inform you that there is great objection to any increase in the light dues on the shipping visiting Indian ports, for the purpose referred to in the papers accompanying your letter under acknowledgement.

A Light on the Great Basses, such as that proposed, is no doubt one of much importance, and would be a benefit to the shipping sighting it; but I am to point out that, there is already a high rate on shipping for the floating light on the Little Basses, which bears

heavily on the shipping coming to and leaving this and other Indian ports.

It is in evidence before the Chamber that large sums have been paid for the present light by ships leaving this port that never sighted the Light or went near it, and in these circumstances much dissatisfaction would be engendered by any increase on the present toll. There is a great tendency to increase in this country the charges on shipping in many ways; it is a policy of a very objectionable character, and requires to be steadily discouraged.

It is the opinion of the Chamber that the Light referred to should be constructed at the cost of Government; and the toll now levied ought to be sufficient, with proper economy, for the purpose of maintenance; and I am directed by the Committee to express their hopes that you will do them the favour to support these views in any communication you make to Government on the subject.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

APPENDIX T.

CONDITION OF BRITISH SEAMEN IN INDIAN PORTS.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 15th April 1869.

MEMORANDUM.

The undersigned presents compliments and requests the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce will be so good as to favour Government, as early as practicable, with the opinion of the Chamber on the suggestions contained in the accompanying communication* from the Government of India.

* No. 122, dated 25th August 1868.

WASSOODEO PANDOORUNG,
For Chief Secretary to Government.

INDIA OFFICE;

London, the 9th July 1868.

To HIS EXCELLENCY THE RIGHT HONOURABLE THE GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA IN COUNCIL.

SIR,—I forward herewith copy of a letter from Captain Toynbee, on the subject of the condition of merchant seamen in Calcutta.

Dated 27th May 1868.

2. The subject is one in which I am aware your Excellency has taken great personal interest. I shall therefore be glad to receive a Report as to what has been proposed and effected under your Excellency's directions at Calcutta; and I also desire that you will invite the Government of Bombay to state its views as to what measures can be taken for lessening the evils to which this class is subject at that port.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) STAFFORD H. NORTHCOTE.

Dated 27th May 1868.

FROM CAPTAIN H. TOYNBEE,

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

I take the liberty of addressing you on the subject of the waste and ruin of merchant seamen, arising out of the existing state of things at Calcutta, and, knowing the deep interest which you take in the mercantile marine, I feel confident that it is only necessary to point out some practical way of removing the causes of this waste and ruin to ensure your aid.

The high position which you hold with regard to India, and your practical experience at the Board of Trade will, I hope, place it in your power to take steps in the matter.

In Calcutta there are always from two thousand to three thousand seamen belonging to ships in the port. When they go on shore for recreation their only resting place is Flag Street—inhabited by brothel-keepers, prostitutes, and crimps of the lowest order, full of the surest and foulest temptations for the seaman after a long voyage. Let a seaman with the best intentions land here merely for recreation, and he invariably yields to temptation, loses all self-respect, and, if a youngster, he begins that downward career which ends in the ruin of so many of our seamen, and, if a grown man he contracts a loathsome disease and becomes a burthen on the ship, crew, and the country, and has finally to be sent home at the Government expense.

On this head, I think that you might obtain much valuable information from the Board of Trade. The vote for the relief and conveyance home of distressed British seamen has nearly doubled and is still increasing, and the seaman himself is fast deteriorating, and this, I believe, is to a very great extent caused by disease contracted in our East Indian possessions, especially in Calcutta. After a seaman has spent some time there, his physical powers are so reduced that he readily becomes a prey to scurvy, and to all the other worst diseases which men who are untainted escape.

I am desirous of convincing you of the magnitude of the evil and its serious results, and would therefore implore you to refer to the Board of Trade to corroborate my statements. I believe, however, that the evil can be checked. It only wants a guiding hand to direct the local authorities at Calcutta to take the matter in hand, and I would ask of you to take this matter seriously into consideration as affecting the interests of our Eastern empire and of this country.

During my various visits to Calcutta, I have endeavoured to persuade the Government and merchants to establish a large sailors' club or institute, surrounded by a play-ground, where the steady men may get recreation and refreshment, where on Sundays there

might be religious services, which the men could attend if they pleased, and evening classes might be held in one part during the week. My experience is that one-sixth of my crew were glad to attend evening classes, and in one year four of my men passed for second mates. I mention this to show from actual experience that the men would avail themselves of the advantages of such an institute. There being always from two to three thousand seamen in Calcutta, the proportion I have given above shows that there are always from three hundred to five hundred who would be anxious for self-improvement, and who would probably be willing to join an evening class after a hard day's work.

The accompanying pamphlet proves that the people in Calcutta are aware of this want. The result of the meeting it reports, was that the Government gave a very good play-ground; but unfortunately in my absence they decided to build a new sailors' home for the two or three hundred who are always living on shore, instead of an institute for the three thousand who nominally live on boardship. The sailors' home is not on the play-ground, so that the latter is without a building, losing thereby nine-tenths of its value. Allow me to call your attention to the marked passages on pages 2, 3 and 4, as also to the action taken by the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce mentioned at pages 25 to 28.

Sir John Lawrence gave the play-ground, and told me that he did not see the least reason why an institute should not be built upon it. If the famine had not stood in the way something would probably have been done ere this; in fact, I have lately had a communication from Sir J. Lawrence to that effect.

I am now in correspondence with the Honourable H. Crook, President of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce, asking that body to make another move on the subject.

I can only add that, after an experience of 35 years at sea, I believe that one of the most important steps towards remedying the above-noticed evils would be the establishment of seamen's clubs in some of our most frequented ports under the superintendence of men who understand and care for them. Calcutta especially needs one which, if well carried out, would set an example to other ports, and I would venture to suggest that steps might be instituted by a local Act, or by an Ordinance, to provide for some assistance from the Indian revenue.

But so far as Calcutta is concerned, I do not think that the proposed institute will do all, and would therefore strongly urge on your attention that some Police Regulations, whereby provisions similar to the provisions of the Contagious Diseases Act might be applied to Calcutta. I feel confident that if the Local Government were urged to move in the matter by you, the thing would be done.

The peculiar temptations and circumstances of seamen need peculiar handling. They cannot combine as other workmen do, for they are spread over the world. They therefore need more consideration from Government. I need hardly say that their immense value to the country makes it wise as well as just to do all we can to help them to help themselves.

No. 122.

COPY forwarded to the Government of Bombay with a request that that Government will favour the Government of India with an expression of its views as to the measures which it would propose for adoption to lessen the evils to which Merchant Seamen are subject in that port.

By order of the Governor General in Council,

(Signed) E. C. BAYLEY,

Secretary to the Govt. of India.

HOME DEPARTMENT, SANITARY;

Simla, 25th August 1868.

No. 127 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

17th May 1869.

To F. R. S. WYLLIE, Esq.,

Under Secretary to Government,

General Department, Bombay.

SIR,—Adverting to your memorandum No. 1096 of 1859, dated 6th instant, and the memorandum No. 922 of 1869, dated 15th ultimo, in the General Department, requesting the opinion of the Chamber on a letter from Captain Toynbee, on the subject of the condition of merchant seamen in India, and more particularly in reference to this Port.

I am directed by the Committee of Management, in reply, to state that in their opinion the strict enforcement of the Contagious Diseases Act in Bombay would, perhaps, do more to improve the condition of the British Seaman than any other practical measure that could be readily adopted.

There is a great want of the means of healthy recreation for seamen in Bombay. Many of them would gladly resort to Reading Rooms and others would avail of Swimming Baths or Skittle Alleys, if such means of healthful amusement and recreation were available, but a large number spend their hardly earned wages and few holidays in the lowest haunts of vice and dissipation.

It is for this latter class that stringent measures should be taken to protect them from the clutches of crimps, keepers of liquor-shops, and those low haunts of vice, the constant frequenting of which, produces amongst our seamen such dreadful consequences.

The enforcement of the provisions of the Act above referred to, combined with the providing of suitable means of healthful bodily and mental recreation would, in the opinion of this Chamber, be the best method of preserving British seamen from the evils pointed out in Captain Toynbee's letter.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

APPENDIX U.

COMPULSORY REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIPS.

No. 53 OF 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
22nd February 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Judicial Department, Bombay.

SIR,—Adverting to my letter of the 25th January 1868, on the subject of a Compulsory Registration of Partnerships, and the letter from the Under Secretary to the Government of India, dated 24th February, which accompanied your letter of 2nd March 1868, in acknowledgement of the same.

I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber to request you will do them the favour to ascertain whether any and what steps have been taken by the Government of India to give legal sanction to the views set forth on this important subject, in the communication above referred to, as more than a year has now elapsed since the matter was laid before the Government of India in a form that would enable it to prepare a Bill on the subject.

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 1296 OF 1869.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.
Bombay Castle, 20th April 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of 22nd February last, inquiring whether any steps have been taken to give legal sanction to the views of the Chamber on the subject of the Compulsory Registration of Partnerships, I am directed to state that the matter is

under the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, but that recently some evidence has come before the Government of India regarding the expediency of the proposed law which is of a very contradictory character.

I have, &c.,

N. DANIELL,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

No. 100 of 1869.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

1*st May* 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,

Judicial Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the Under Secretary's letter No. 1296 of 1869, dated 20th ultimo, in answer to my inquiry as to what steps had been taken in reference to legislation on the question of a Compulsory Registration of Partnerships, stating the matter was under the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, but that evidence on the subject of a very contradictory character as to the expediency of the measure had come before the Government of India.

In reply I am directed to express the regret of the Committee that so little progress should have been made in preparing to legislate on a question of so much importance to the mercantile community. It is now more than two years since the question was brought before Government by this Chamber, in a representation which was supported by the Chambers of Madras and Calcutta, and nothing was said in the correspondence that has hitherto taken place that would lead the Committee of Management to suppose that the Government of India had any difficulty in dealing with the subject with a view to Legislation.

I am directed respectfully to request His Excellency the Governor in Council will do the Committee the favour to procure for them full information as to the alleged difficulties in the way of legislation and what the Government of India proposed doing in the matter.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 30th June 1869.

To THE SECRETARY TO THE BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honourable the Governor in Council to inform you, that a copy of your letter of the 1st May last, on the subject of the Compulsory Registration of Partnerships, has been forwarded to the Government of India for such consideration and notice as it may deem necessary.

I have, &c.,

JOHN JARDINE,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

APPENDIX V.

THE SILTING UP OF THE HARBOUR OF BOMBAY.

II.—C. W. HARBOUR IMPROVEMENTS.

Alleged Silting up of the Harbour of Bombay.

No. 916 C. W.—2994 OF 1868.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 29th December 1868.

Letter from the Consulting Engineer for Reclamations, No. 154, dated 22nd October 1868.

Forwards, with reference to Government Resolution, No. 1710, dated 22nd July 1868, a joint report by the Chief Engineer Presidency Division and himself, on the subject of the alleged Silting up of the Harbour of Bombay.

RESOLUTION.—The report should be printed, and copies sent to the Chamber of Commerce, and placed at the disposal of the Press.

2. The Chamber should be informed that, if they have any evidence to offer as regards the effect of the Sion and Chimboor Causeways on the anchorage in the Harbour, Government will be ready to take it into consideration.

3. Such a survey and record as that suggested by General Tremenheere and Colonel Trevor in their last para. would probably be of great utility, and it should be suggested to the Harbour and Pilotage Board that they might very properly undertake it when means are at disposal.

No. 154 OF 1868.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT,

Bombay, 22nd October 1868.

To Colonel K. M. KENNEDY, R.E.,

Secretary to Government, Public Works Department, Bombay.

SIR,—I beg to submit, for the information of Government, with reference to their Resolution No. 485 C. W.—1710, of the 22nd

July last, a memorandum drawn up by General Tremenheere, R. E., before his departure for Aden, on the alleged general deterioration of the Bombay Harbour.

2. I entirely concur in the views expressed in the memorandum. There is no evidence whatsoever that the Harbour of Bombay is not as good and as deep an anchorage ground for sea-going vessels now, as at any former period during the present century. But there is equally little doubt that the construction of the Sion and Chimboor Causeways has led to the formation of a considerable deposit of mud in the angle between the Islands of Bombay and Trombay, and there are reasons for apprehending that the rate of accumulation of mud in this locality will, in future, be accelerated by the great contraction of the channel between the town and Cross Island, that has been caused by the projection of the works of the Elphinstone Land Company.

3. I do not think, however, that the deposit arising from the action of these causes will ever be carried forward to an extent that will, in any appreciable degree, diminish the value of Bombay as a harbour for shipping. But I am ready to admit that persons interested in the wharves and docks on the north of the Malet Bunder, are in danger of having the value of their property much lowered by the formation of banks in the portion of the harbour opposite their premises. It seems to me to be doubtful whether this risk of individual loss is a question with which Government are bound to deal. The wharves and docks have, I think, with one exception, been made since the Chimboor and Sion Causeways were constructed, and it would be cheaper for Government to pay compensation for any ancient rights that could be shown to have suffered from the construction of those Causeways, than to attempt now to remedy the evils that have arisen by a series of works whose expense will be great, and whose action will be uncertain.

I have &c.,

J. S. TREVOR, Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.,
Consulting Engineer for Reclamations.

MEMORANDUM.

We observe that complaints of the silting up of the Harbour have been made upon various occasions, and by different persons, for a great many years.

2. In 1833, Vice-Admiral Sir John Gore addressed Government on the subject in a letter in which he compared the state of the Harbour at that time with what it was, or what he perhaps thought it had been, when he first visited it in the year 1789.

3. In 1837, the same complaint of an accumulation near the Mazagon Dock was made, and with reference to a proposal to open the Sion Causeway, Captain Ross, then the Master Attendant, stated that it was likely to remove an accumulation of silt which has gradually taken place near the Mazagon Dockyard since it was closed.

Para. 10. Captain Suart to Superintendent of roads.

4. With regard to the state of the Harbour formerly, we have not been able to obtain any very reliable imformation. The only Marine Surveys of it we have, are the very imperfect Chart of Hoisburg, dated 1803, and the Charts of Lieutenant Cogan, made in 1829, and of Lieutenant Whish, in 1853. As it is difficult to compare these owing to their being on different scales, we have plotted Lieutenant Whish's soundings, Hoisburg's soundings, and inserted them in blue and red ink, respectively, upon a copy of Lieutenant Cogan's chart, herewith sent.

5. Marine Surveys are not, however, made with sufficient minuteness and precision to permit of any exact comparison. They are no doubt, sufficient for the nautical purposes for which they are intended, but not for Engineering purposes.

6. Nautical Surveyors refer their soundings to Low Water at spring tides, but as this varies considerably, it is very probable that two successive Surveyors may not have referred their soundings to the same datum lines.

7. It is stated on the face of Lieutenant Cogan's Chart that "the rise and fall of the tides vary from 15 to 18 feet 3 inches," while Lieutenant Whish gives mean spring rise 12 feet 3 inches, neaps 8 feet 11 inches.

The diurnal variation in the level of low water Spring Tides is nearly 4 feet.

Authority, Mr. Orniston's table, page 62, *Bombay Builder*, 1867, 5th August.

86·51
74·19
12·32

8. Lieutenant Whish has stated, almost with exactness, the average rise of spring tides.

9. If both Lieutenant Cogan's and Lieutenant Whish's Charts are to be considered correct, it will be noticed that an accumulation of mud, varying from 2 to 5 feet in depth, had taken place along the space between Mazagon and Green Island in the 34 years which had elapsed between the Surveys. No alteration of any marked character appears, however, to have taken place in the Harbour itself.

10. Lieutenant Whish appears not to have extended his observations over the mud flats between Sewree and Sion, that portion of his Chart being copied from Lieutenant Cogan's Survey.

11. As the rapid silting which the Chamber of Commerce believe to be taking place in this portion of the Harbour, has been attributed to the construction of the Chimboor and Sion Causeways, we were anxious to obtain more detailed information than that afforded by Lieutenant Cogan's Chart, and in the old records of the Military Board we have discovered a report and survey of the whole of this creek by E. T. Clark, Esquire, Civil Engineer, in the year 1845. This survey commenced at Sewree and Green Island, extended to the Sion and Chimboor Causeways, and embraced the Mahim and Bandora Backwater and Causeway. As Mr. Clark's report and the correspondence which ensued with the Military Board contains much interesting information connected with the subject referred for our report, we have caused portions thereof to be printed, and beg to forward copies with a reduced map of Mr. Clark's survey, which as been lithographed.

12. We observe that Mr. Clark appears to have left no permanent stations or bench marks, and affords no information by which the level he assumed as that of either High or Low water mark, can be referred to any datum.

13. We should mention that the Causeway at Sion was constructed in the year 1797, the Chimboor Causeway in 1841, and the Mahim Causeway in 1844.

14. We have no information as to the state of the Creek north of Sewree and near Sion, prior to the construction of the Sion Causeway; from the fact that the only waterway provided is an arch of 20 feet span and 180 square feet in area, it is evident that no very large amount of tidal water could have passed either into the Harbour from the Westward, or from the Harbour towards Mahim.

Para. 8 of Captain Suart's letter, quoted above.

15. Although the archway at Sion had been closed by artificial means in 1834, it was necessary in the Mahim Causeway to leave four arches, each 30 feet in span. This waterway is however, so restricted, that there is said to be a difference of 4 feet between the water level on the two sides of the bridge at high water spring tides, while, as there is not time for the pounded water within to run off, the low water of spring tides is higher than it is at neaps.

Mr. Bruce's report No. 121, of the 13th November 1838.

Captains Ross and Turner's report, Para 9.

Para. 12, Lieutenant Crawford's letter, 18th March 1842.

Para. 8, Captain Cruickshank's letter No. 37, of 28th January 1846.

Para. 3, Captain Cruickshank's letter No. 37, of 28th January 1864.

16. With regard to the effect of the Sion Causeway, we find it stated in a report by the then Master Attendant, Captain Ross, and Captain, now Major General, H. B. Turner, dated February 1839,

Above referred to.

that the mud on the eastern side of the Causeway was then about four feet higher than that on its western side. From a measurement we have made, we infer that no further accumulation may have taken place, as there is the same difference in the level of the two sides now as in 1839. We observe that the eastern channel leading to the Bridge, which appears to have had not less than 7 feet water in it at Spring tides, has closed up, the necessary result of closing the archway.

See Section by Hurree.

See Chart.

17. Mr. Clark was of opinion, writing in 1845, that the tendency of the Chimboor Causeway was to hasten deposit over the extensive marshes upon its *northern* side: he held that the deposit in this part of the Harbour came from that direction; but Lieutenant Crawford pointed out the fact, that, except at high water spring tides, no water reached the Chimboor Causeway from the north, and the only water which usually reached the marsh on that side percolated through the Causeway. He observed with astonishment the large accumulation of mud which had taken place on the *southern* side of the Causeway during the three years which had elapsed since he had seen it.

Para. 7 of No. 69. March 1846.

Para. 8 of No. 69. March 1846.

Para. 8 of No. 69. March 1846.

18. We find that at the present time there is a very slight difference in the level of the mud on the two sides; in a section extending 1,000 feet on each side, the difference is from 6 to 9 inches, the harbour side being the highest. The tidal water appears to find its way readily through the embankment.

Section by Hurree.

19. Assuming the high water at spring tides to be at the same level on the Mahim and Sion Causeways, the following section may be nearly correct.

20. Looking at the peculiar bend in the Sion Causeway, we believe that advantage was probably taken of a mass of rock upon which to construct the bridge in that work, and if the area of the waterway has been correctly recorded, it would appear that the sill of the opening or the rock must be about 50 feet above low water at ordinary springs, and 7·75 feet above extreme low water.

The range is taken from Captains Crawford and Cruickshank, and does not agree very well with what has been stated before.

21. From the information we have obtained regarding the level to which the tide rises on the western side of Sion Causeway since the construction of the Mahim Causeway, it would appear necessary that a proposition to open the former should also include the pro-

vision of a considerable increase of waterway through the latter. This of itself would be a difficult and expensive work ; but the cost of so doing would be insignificant compared with the works which would be necessary at Sion to carry both the railway and cart traffic.

22. We entertain considerable doubt whether, if the works above indicated were carried out, the force of the tidal water would be sufficient to remove any large portion of the great mass of mud which has accumulated between Sion and Sewree, and if so, whether this would be desirable. This part of the Harbour is now a "cul-de-sac," and accumulation must be anticipated ; but so far as we can form an opinion from the information before us, we do not believe that any injury has accrued to the Harbour itself by the construction of the three Causeways, or that they are likely in future time to cause any injury to it.

23. We regard the complaint made of a deposit at Mazagon as probably well founded, but to be merely local and partial, due partly to the projection of the P. and O. Company's dock head, and to the extensive reclamation of the Elphinstone Company between Mazagon and Carnac Bunder, which has seriously affected the channel for the tidal water between the Cross Island and the shore. The accompanying lithographed portion of a survey by Captain Selbey of this part of the harbour on which the projection of the present bunder is drawn, will explain at once the extent to which the channel has been contracted.

24. So far as we can form an opinion from the information we have been able to obtain, we are not disposed to attach much importance to the statements which have been made that any considerable loss of depth has taken place in that part of the Harbour used by ships, and had any large accumulation of mud taken place at Mazagon, rock would not have been found so near the surface on the approach to the P. and O. Company's dock.

25. From the nature of our other duties, we have been obliged to frame this report chiefly upon such information as we could find on record, and the data upon which our opinions are based are not so reliable as we could have wished. We offer them accordingly with much deference. Should Government have other grounds than those before us for anticipating any evil result to the Harbour from a continuance of the existing Causeways and the separation of the Mahim waters from those of the Harbour, we would beg to recommend that an Engineer Officer be appointed to repeat Mr. Clark's Survey.

26. We would also recommend that a careful survey of the whole Harbour be made, the soundings referred to a fixed datum line being carried in direct lines entirely across from shore to shore between

permanent marks, so that they may be repeated at any time hereafter, and that after an interval of say 10 years these sections be carefully repeated.

(Signed) C. W. TREMENHEERE,
Major General, R.E.

" J. S. TREVOR,
Lieut.-Colonel, R.E.

To the Secretary to the Military Board, Bombay.

Bombay, 9th October 1845.

Sir,—As the survey of those marshes extending between Sewree Fort and the Sion and Chamboor Causeways, at the north-eastern angle of the Island of Bombay, is now, together with the included levels, completed; and as this forms the most considerable, and, in many respects, an independent portion, of the work pointed out in my original instructions, I propose at this time, through the channel of the Military Board, to lay, together with the plans and sections, before the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, what I have to state by way of report, reserving, of course, to the completion of the whole work, whatever observations, additional to, or in correction of those here set down, may, in the intermediate time, suggest themselves to me.

2. Together with this report I also have the honour to transmit eleven appended papers, of which three, marked severally 1, 2, and 3, are the original sheets or plottings of the part of the survey referred to as completed. Seven others, marked severally 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, contain the sections of the survey plotted separately, for the greater convenience of reference, but the figures corresponding to the heights of which are also laid down upon the plans. The scale of the plans, employed also; horizontally for the sections, is 300 feet to the inch, being that of the great map of Bombay Island preserved in the office of the Collector of Land Revenue. The remaining paper marked A, and annexed hereto, is a general and outline sketch map of the whole district referred to, either in my original or appended instructions, and is here included as tending to render more clear various points adverted to or advanced in this report.

Description of the papers annexed.

3. My appointment to the duty under consideration was announced to me by Mr. Secretary Escombe, by letter No. 2674

Instructions.

of 1844, dated the 10th of August. Upon my application, as directed therein, to Military Board for detailed instructions, I received from that body, with a letter from their Secretary No. 3467 of 1844, dated 16th of August, a volume of correspondence between the Government, divers of its officers, and the Board upon the subject, and from various parts of this correspondence I extracted what I conceived to be intended as my instructions, and which I now proceed to recapitulate :—

Compilation No. 89 of 1844.

The Chief Secretary to the Committee, No. 2987, dated 11th September 1843.
Mr. Secretary Townsend, to the Military Board, No. 1748 of 1844, dated 31st May.

I.—To examine into, and survey the localities between the Islands of Bombay, Trombay, and Salsette.

The Chief Secretary to the Military Board, No. 2729 of 1843, dated 17th August.
The same, to the Committee, No. 2987 of 1843, dated 11th September.
The same to the Military Board, No. 145 of 1844, dated 17th January, para. 3.
Mr. Secretary Townsend, to the Military Board, No. 1748 of 1844, dated 31st May.

II.—To ascertain the probable effect of the construction of the Chimboor Causeway, combined with that of the closure of the Sion Causeway, upon the north-eastern angle of the Island of Bombay, extending from Sewree northward, and westward to Bandora.

The Chief Secretary to the Military Board, No. 2729 of 1843, dated 17th August.
The same, to the Committee, No. 2987 of 1843, dated 11th September.

III.—To determine what prospect exists of the whole channel becoming so filled up as to allow of a communication between the Islands, and of the employment of space so recovered for the purposes of cultivation.

Instructions.—How to be carried out.

4. Such being my general instructions, I propose to carry them out :—

I.—By a survey of the marshes and waterways contained within the shore line, at high-water, extending from Sewree Fort to the Mahim Causeway upon the Bombay shore ; from the Mahim Causeway to the Chimboor Causeway upon the Salsette shore ; and from the Chimboor Causeway to the reef of rock called Green Island on the Trombay shore, and opposite to Sewree.

II.—By the determination of the general levels of the above space with reference to the level of high water.

III—By ascertaining the actual circumstances under, and the rate at which, the deposit of mud is now going forward, and the actual and probable future effects of the Causeways of Sion, Chimboor, and Mahim upon the adjacent marshes and waterways; and by inferring from thence generally, the best method of aiding or directing that deposit, so as to make it subservient to the purposes of cultivation.

IV.—To these heads is to be added, in accordance with instructions recently receiving by me from the Hon'ble the Governor in Council, through the Military Board:—

Military Board, to Mr. Clark, No. 3291 of 1845, dated 16th August.

"The affording as much information as possible in regard to the nature of the lands surveyed, and also the including any remarks that I may have to offer on the treatment of the surveyed lands, and of those far more extensive marshes extending from Chimboor to Tanna, and from Kulwa to Punwell, as also on the general question of deposits on the shores of Bombay and Salsette." In order to comply, however imperfectly, with these additional instructions, it will be necessary to touch upon various topics which I should otherwise have passed over in silence, and these accordingly will be found to be embodied in this report in such order as seemed to be most convenient.

5. As the survey of that part of the above tract lying southward and eastward of the Chimboor and Sion Causeways was the whole originally contemplated—as it is that district at present most in request for the formation of salt-works, and upon which the original application to Government was made—and as it besides forms in itself, in some sort, an integral part of the survey, I judged it better, while including the whole in my report, in the first place to complete this portion, which has been done.

Present survey why selected for completion.

The Chief Secretary to the Military Board No. 2729 of 1843, dated 17th August.

Minute by the Chief Engineer, 18th April 1844, para. 2.

6. The area thus brought under the notice of Government, making a most ample allowance for bunds, waterways, platforms for the stowage of salt during the monsoon, and for so much of the mid-channel as might be required to be left open, or as it might not be deemed economical, from its depth, at this time to enclose, cannot be estimated at less than 81 millions of square feet, or in round numbers, 2,280 beghas, local measure.

Area available for Salt-works.

7. On the 16th of September 1844, before taking up the appointment, I applied to the Military Board to be placed in official communication with the Collectors of Land Revenue of Bombay and

Progress of work.—Preliminaries.

Tanna, with a view to my access to the maps in the custody of those officers; on the 20th September 1844, I reported to the Military Board that I was about to commence operations; on the 25th September, I made application to Mr. Secretary Townsend to be allowed to hire the services of certain native measurers then employed upon the Revenue Survey in the Dekkan; and on the 26th of September, I applied by indent to the Military Board for certain instruments from the Government stores necessary for the proper carrying on of the work.

Progress of the work.— Further preliminaries.

8. The permission to hire the native measurers reached me on the 10th of October; and the measurers themselves arrived about the middle of November 1844, and were set to work forthwith. Having received no answer to my applications to be placed in communication with the Collectors of Bombay and Tanna, and to be allowed to indent for instruments upon the Government stores, I repeated these requests in two letters dated 29th of November 1844, addressed to the Military Board, stating at length my reasons for the original application. To these applications, having still received no answer, I, a third time, by letter dated 1st of January 1845, called the attention of the Military Board to the subject, and finally, on the 11th of January, the requisite permission reached me. On the 16th instant, the instruments indented for were obtained from the stores, and on the 30th instant, I gained access to the maps of the two Collectorates.

Military Board, to Mr. Clark, No. 112, dated 11th January 1845.

Progress of the work, actual.

9. The survey, however, in the mean time, had been commenced with such instruments as I possessed or could construct; but in the absence of the Collectors' maps, I was necessarily unable so to arrange the work as to secure the commencement of the new survey at the margin of the old, so that no part of the lands should be left unsurveyed, or be surveyed twice over, and that the new work should be laid down to the same, or to some scale bearing a convenient relation to, the scale of the old.

Plans.—Causes of difficulties of observation.

10. The positions of the stations laid down in the plans 1, 2, and 3 were determined trigonometrically, with an 8 inch theodolite, upon bases measured upon the Sewree shore. These have been checked by a considerable number of observations, but the haze before and at sunrise, and the refraction caused by the heated air rising from the mud at a later period of the day, rendered it a task of more than ordinary tediousness and difficulty to determine with accuracy the position of the necessarily

low stations upon the opposite and distant shore; neither, from the character of the intervening space, mud and water, was the establishment of any intermediate stations in any way practicable.

Plans.—Alterations of ground, &c. during the Survey.

During the progress of the survey, and since a portion of it has been completed, new, or alterations in the old, salt works, both on the Bombay and Trombay side have been going forward, and ground is marked out, as though various extensions were in contemplation. Where these works have been completed at the period of the survey, they have been included in it, but not otherwise.

Traces of abandoned works.

11. On the Trombay shore the bunds and walls are in some places double, and in others they are ruined, and appear to have belonged to more extensive works now abandoned, so that it has not always been easy to decide what line should be included in the survey; a difficulty which does not occur in the better arranged and more perfect works upon the Bombay side.

Plans.—Circumstances affecting the measurement.

12. The creeks and carrees so numerous towards the northern extremity of the marsh, the mangrove thickets, often from eight to ten feet in height which fringe the midwater line over the greater portion of the tract, and the soft and yielding character of the mud itself, are circumstances which, it will be sufficiently obvious, render the completion of all measurements below high-water mark a difficult and troublesome operation.

Sections.—Objections to the use of a levelling instrument.

13. Thus much concerning the plans. I proceed in the next place to the sections. The circumstances which affect the determination of the horizontal angles, of course affect in a still greater degree the determination of observations in altitude, and except along the raised banks or bunds, there are few, if any, hours in each day in which observations fit to be depended upon, with the levelling instruments, can be taken. This difficulty in this particular locality, affects not only the rate at which observations with these instruments can be taken, but for the following reason, its employment altogether. In England, about 150 yards is as long a sight as can, under favourable circumstances, and with good instruments, be safely depended upon for tolerably minute accuracy; and about 50 yards is the distance ordinarily taken. In hot countries this distance becomes by the increase of the *error* from refraction, materially lessened; and across the tract of mud upon which my recent operations had to be carried on, I found the error from refraction to be even greater than on the dry land; so that there were certainly not two hours in each day in which the instrument could be employed with any hope of correct

result. Under ordinary circumstances, I should have met this difficulty by the employment of short distances, say of 25 yards each, but here the character of the mud in which even the light natives sunk to the mid-thigh, placed this altogether out of the question, and none of the observations could have been taken over distances of less than 458 yards, and all those more important ones between Sewree and Trombay, would have been over distances of from 1,303 to 1,586 yards.

Sections.—Method adopted.

14. Under these circumstances, after many vain trials, I determined to lay aside the levelling instrument as altogether useless, and to trust entirely to another method. Lines of bamboos were planted in the mud, of length sufficient to appear above high-water mark, and upon these the height of the spring tides was noted, and the depth at each point obtained by measurement, together with the distances between the bamboos. By this means a number of extensive lines of section were obtained, which could not have been arrived at by any other practicable method with which I am acquainted.

Section.—Objections to the method employed.

15. This method, it is evident, proceeds upon the supposition that the surface of the water at the moment of high tide, is level. There are two causes which might affect the truth of this supposition, the wind, and the figure of the channel. The greater part of this marsh, however, is more or less protected from the wind, and the surface of the water consequently is not very liable to be ruffled or rendered uneven by this agent, the effect of which, therefore, in the present instance, I am disposed to regard as unimportant. With respect to the other source of error, it is, no doubt, possible that the sudden contraction of the waterway may affect the flow of the tide, and retain the water at unequal heights, at the same time, in different parts of the channel. I am not, however, disposed to regard either this source of error as of any great importance, and whatever may be its value, it is obvious that it will not injuriously affect any salt works that may be undertaken, even as high up as the Causeways, that is at the extreme distance from the open harbour; since the levels of such works must be regulated, not by any absolute level, but by the actual height obtained by the waters by which their basins and reservoirs are to be fed. It seems, therefore, that the levels now laid down are both the best that circumstances admit of being taken, and are sufficiently accurate for the general purposes contemplated in taking them.

Monsoon: its effects upon the ground.

16. The ground is at this time almost inaccessible, so that I have not yet been able fully to observe the effects of the monsoon upon it. So far, however, as I have been able to observe, this effect in the creeks is confined to the

deepening and clearing out the mud which had fallen into them from the banks. But over the general surface of the marsh, and especially where the soil is held up by the roots of the mangrove plants, the only change produced by the rainy seasons appears to be the addition of a film of mud.

Effect of the Causeways.—Circumstances first to be considered.

17. To appreciate correctly what has been, or is likely to be, the effect of the Causeways, it becomes necessary to take a general view of the state of things under which they act.

Harbour Marshes.—General description.

18. The marshes between the three Causeways and Sewree form a small part only of a very large tract of land of similar quality, and deposited under precisely similar circumstances. These occupy, on either side, the margin of the harbour, extending at variable breadths between high and low water marks from Bellapoor in the Concan, nearly to Kulwa, and from Tanna in Salsette to the eastern angle of the island, and near to the village of Trombay. A tendency to deposit also appears along the south-eastern shore of Trombay, from Trombay Bunder to Perpow, as well as about the opposite shores of Elephanta and Butcher Islands.

Marshes.—Mainland shore.

19. With the extent or character of the marshes along the mainland shore, I am as yet but very imperfectly acquainted. This coast is not accessible during the rains, since the setting in of which the part of my instructions relating to it have been communicated to me.

Marshes.—Salsette shore.

20. The marshes between Tanna and Trombay vary in breadth from a narrow strip to very nearly four miles, and extend in length from north to south, about 10 miles. They include, at a rough estimate, and making large deductions for creeks, waterways, and such parts as could not at present economically be closed, certainly not less than 600 millions square feet, or 16,915 beghas, and probably much more. Near the shore they are covered only at spring tides, and are devoid of vegetation; further out they are overflowed more frequently, and are for the most part covered thickly with mangrove shrubs, the effect of which is to raise the level of the soil, not only by the addition of their own vegetable matter, but by retarding the flow of the current, and thus favouring the deposit of the mud with which it is laden.

The Creeks.

21. These marshes are intersected by several very considerable creeks, the chief of which form outlets for, and are kept open by, the waters which during the rainy season gush down in very consi-

derable torrents from the mountains and high tablelands of Salsette. The sides near the upper level of these creeks are precipitous, being supported by the roots of the mangroves by which they are bordered. Most of them contain deep water to within a short distance from the shore, and they are admirably suited both for feeding salt reservoirs, and for floating even the largest class of vessels in which the removal of the manufactured salt is carried on.

General depth of the Deposit.

22. The depth of these marshes has not, as far as I am aware, been ascertained to any extent, in the only way in which it can be ascertained, by probing. This depth is, no doubt, very unequal. At Chimboor, for example, the unseemly outline of the Causeway shows,—what I have also ascertained in one or two adjacent places by probing—the depth to be considerable, and the mud is of a soft character. Further north, especially about Bandoop, the mud, on the contrary, is more or less superficial, and covers very thinly a broad and tolerably level table of trap rock. On the whole the southern and broader tracts of marsh would appear to be also the deepest.

* * * * *

Marshes.—Causes of their formation.

25. The causes of the formation of these marshes form the next point for consideration, since upon a right appreciation of the former, must depend the success of any measures for increasing or reclaiming the latter. It appears from a comparison of the soil of the marshes with that suspended in the waters, and deposited in the beds of the Kalian and Panwell Rivers, and in the pools and eddies of the streams at the foot of the mountains, that all resemble each other more or less closely, if indeed they be not absolutely identical, and that they form just such a substance as might be expected from the effect of the tropical rains upon mountains of the character and composition of the Western Ghauts. That debris and detritus are annually brought down, water-rolled into mud, by the swollen rivers to the sea, and form a very fruitful cause of banks and shoals along various parts of the shores of the Concan, is well known, and may be seen by reference to those charts of the coast in which the nature of the bottom is laid down. Looking, however, only to the circumstances of Bombay itself for a confirmation of the inland origin of the deposits, it is to be remarked that, whereas in the bends and at the mouth of the Kalian and Panwell Rivers, and in the more protected parts of the Harbour, the tendency to deposit is very strong indeed; on the western or seaward coast of the island, though containing a sufficient number of sheltered bays and nooks, but upon which no rivers disembogue, the tendency to deposit is very trifling, and for the most part confined to a semi-calcareous substance, totally different

from the harbour mud, and due to a totally distinct class of the causes.

Rivers falling into the Harbour.—Panwell River.

26. Besides a number of inconsiderable brooks, two rivers fall into the harbour, and contribute, though very unequally, to diminish its area. Of these the smaller does not rise as far inland as the Ghauts, but draining only the western flanks of the outlying mountains of Bhow-Mulling and Matheran, in the Concan, and the uplands near Panwell, falls into the Harbour below that town, forming in its course the marshes about 'Bellapoor, and probably contributing somewhat to those on the northern flank of the peninsula called Hog Island.

Rivers falling into the Harbour.—Kalian river.

27. The other tributary flowing into the harbour is an arm of the Woolas or Kalian River, a very considerable stream indeed, the springs of which extend from the Thull Ghaut to Khandalla, over above 70 miles of mountain frontier, and descending as the three great branches of the Basto, the Carloo, and the Woolas, unite, a few miles above Kalian, to form a very broad river, which, during the rainy season, keeps back the tide, and deposits a copious sediment of mud at any sudden bend or expansion of the channel, or under any circumstances capable of checking the velocity of its waters. The chain of mud islands in its bed from opposite the village of Divee downwards, are well marked examples of this tendency.

The Kalian River: its two branches.

28. The main stream reaches the sea at Bassein, and the consideration of its deposits does not fall within the limits of my instructions, but a smaller though still very considerable, arm, divides the north-eastern angle of Salsette from the mainland, and flows past the town of Tanna, into the upper or northern extremity of Bombay Harbour. During the rains, the waters of this arm flow with the receding tide through the narrows between Tanna and Kulwa with great velocity, and laden with a most copious supply of mud held in mechanical suspension; as the whole channel between the main river and Tanna is rocky and confined, the stream retains a tolerably uniform velocity throughout, and not only does no deposit take place, but the channel is maintained clear by the perpetual and forcible scour.

The Kalian River: its entrance into the Harbour.

29. South of Tanna, however, the channel suddenly expands, and continues to do so, though more gradually, for about ten miles, as low, that is, as Trombay. Hence, when the stream has passed Tanna, it loses suddenly a part of its velocity, becomes in consequence unable to retain the whole of its

mud in suspension, and a deposit necessarily commences. This result of course continues to be exhibited so long as the channel retains its increased capacity or until the water has parted with all but that small quantity of mud which it is enabled to retain by the motion imparted to it by the winds and tides.

Evidences of the direction whence the mud proceeds.

30. If this account of the source of the deposits be the true one, then it is evident that the mud will be deposited not only generally in all the sheltered corners of the harbour, but chiefly on the northern or upper margin of any lands projecting into it. In this way the Island of Trombay has intercepted the vast bank of mud already described, and, on a smaller scale, Sion Causeway has produced the same effects, the mud upon that side towards the harbour having been deposited more copiously, and at a much higher level, than on the opposite side; although it is also pretty evident that the tendency to deposit under and to the northward of Sion Fort must, from the winding character of the channel have been very well marked long before the commencement of the causeway, about 50 years ago. A similar, though less strongly marked, class of effects, with those to the north, are exhibited to the south of Trombay. Although the waters, before reaching that peninsula, have deposited most of their superfluous mud, yet that the expansion succeeding to that contraction is not without its effects is evident from the deposits between Trombay village and Perpow, and by a bank which was formed on the southern side of Trombay Bunder within a very few months after its construction and upon which a mangrove jungle has already sprung up.

Probable future limits of the Deposit.

31. As intimately connected with this view of the question I may observe, that, although it is, I think, evident that the marshes bordering various parts of the harbour will continue, as they have continued, to extend, yet that I do not conceive that they are likely ever to unite, so as to convert the harbour into a "cul-de-sac." The velocity of the flow during the rainy season, will, it seems probable, always preserve a channel sufficient to convey its usual volume of water towards the lower harbour, into which, no doubt, under such a state of things the mud which it now deposits north of Trombay, would be poured. There, however, the agitation of the waves will probably check its deposit, and sweep much of it out to sea. Should, moreover, in remote times, undoubted symptoms of choking up appear in the lower harbour, it would always be possible, by contracting the channel of the Kalian River near the Kusseylee Islands, to direct, through the Tanna opening, such additional quantity of its waters as should keep up an effectual scour.

Rate of the Deposit.—Circumstantial evidence.

32. To determine, in any degree, the rate at which the deposit is going forward, is a task that requires the observation of more than one rainy season, and to determine it with accuracy would require several. That it is going forward wherever any favourable circumstances are created, is certainly shown by the effect of the Sion and Chimboor Causeways, and of the Trombay Bunder, each of which produces a tract of still water. The general disposition to deposit may also, I think, be inferred, though in a less striking manner, by the film of mud upon the stems and leaves even of the young mangroves, and from the fact that upon any diversion of the land waters into a new channel, the old one, as is specially evident on the Trombay shore, becomes filled up. The general rate of deposit is, however, no doubt, slow. There is every reason to suppose that the causes now operating, have operated, under the same circumstances, for an immense period of time, so that, had the deposit been other than slow, it must long since have reached its maximum, and have converted the upper harbour into a mere prolongation of the Tanna channel.

Rate of Deposit.—Evidence, oral, and from records.

33. The oral, or written, evidence concerning the rate of the deposit, so far at least as I have been able to discover it, is even less satisfactory. There is a general impression among the villagers, and among those concerned in the salt manufacture, that the marshes are increasing, but this description of testimony upon a point of this sort is extremely loose and unsatisfactory. I have not been able to hear of any records bearing on the subject, and indeed, although Salsette retains ample traces of the activity, both in ecclesiastical and agricultural pursuits, of its Portuguese masters, they do not appear to have cultivated the Harbour marshes to any great extent—at least I have seen scarcely any traces of such cultivation.

Rate of Deposit.—Attempts to observe it.

34. With a view to the observation of the rate of deposit, near Sewree, I drove teak posts four inches square, cross section, the largest that I had the means of driving, into the mud, leaving their tops above high water mark. These posts were only intended for the observations of one season, and would probably, from natural causes, not have lasted longer. As it was, however, they, being necessarily unguarded, were stolen at night, probably by the same person who regularly removed the spars, bamboos, pegs, and other marks set up in distant and detached places, as I understood, from a notion that the pending survey might interfere with the immunities of the fishermen. These thefts are noticed in my periodical reports, and I communicated on the subject of them with the then Superintendent of Police, but he was

unable to assist me, even where the marks stolen were on the Island of Bombay and in accessible places.

Rate of Deposit.—Proposed mode of ascertaining.

35. As the determination of the rate, both of the local and general deposits, is a matter of considerable fiscal importance, it deserves special attention. I should recommend that a number of stout piles, so guarded as to be worm-proof, be driven deeply into, and, where practicable, through, the mud, the level of which, with reference to a fixed mark on each pile, should be observed three or four times annually, especially before and after the rains. As the deposition in deep water is more rapid than when the bottom lies near the surface, some of these piles should be fixed in deep, and others in shoal, water, some in the current, and others out of it. If a dozen such marks were set up in places properly selected, and were duly observed, the Government would in a short time possess data, the results of which would probably be conclusive. At the same time that this is carrying on, the depth of the mud should be probed in various places, so that cross sections might be laid down showing not only the present depth of the harbour, but the depth to its original rocky bottom, as it must have existed before the deposition of the mud.

Causeways.—Probable effects of.

36. Assuming—which, for the reasons above stated, I think myself justified in doing—that the waters depositing mud, enter the harbour chiefly from the north, and scarcely, if at all, from the open sea, it becomes a very simple matter to predicate what is likely to be, as well as to point out what has been, the effect of the Causeways.

Sion Causeway: its effects.

37. The effect of Sion Causeway has evidently been to separate the waters of the Mahim basin from those of the harbour, and by breaking the current, to reduce both, at this point, to a state of comparative repose. Both, in consequence, have formed a deposit—the one moderately, as containing but little sediment; the other copiously, as containing a good deal. The west side has accordingly been silted up partially; the east side completely. The archway in this causeway was evidently intended for the benefit of the navigation, and it appears to have been blocked up because the eastern channel leading to it had become impracticable, except at spring tides and for small vessels. The effect of this causeway, then, has been to create on its eastern side a rapid increase of that deposit, which, had the causeway not been constructed, would have been carried towards Mahim and Bandora, and, with the exception of such part as might have reached the open sea, would have tended to silt up the space between the Sion and present Mahim Causeways.

38. The Mahim Causeway, that is, the solid part of it, tends to separate the daily flow of the waters of the open sea, from those contained in the large basin or pool between the Sion and Mahim Causeways, and which it will be convenient to call the Mahim basin. With the exception of a very trifling leakage through the arch of the Sion Causeway, this is filled entirely from the sea, and whatever sediment its waters may contain, they are likely, being to some extent penned back by the causeway, to deposit. In the rainy season a considerable influx of water reaches the basin from the mountains of Salsette, and a portion also is derived, on the opposite shore, from the drainage of a part of the northern flats of Bombay. These facts are indicated by two unequal banks of mud, which may be seen on the ground, and will be laid down upon the next sheets of the survey now in progress. The new causeway, by checking the flow of these land waters to the sea, will, no doubt, augment the rate of the deposit. The whole quantity of soil brought down indeed, being in proportion to the extent of the land drained, and the steepness of its watercourse, cannot altogether be very considerable. The effect of this causeway, however, as far as it goes, is undeniably to the formation of new lands.

Mahim Causeway: its effects.

39. The Chimboor Causeway comes next under consideration. This, unlike those of Mahim, and originally Sion, is a solid barrier, leaking indeed considerably as regards the stability of the structure, but by no means so as materially to affect its present character as a bund. The general configuration of the opposite shores of Salsette and Trombay, is such as to form a channel of very irregular breadth, the principal contractions being those opposite to Kerole in Salsette, and Chimboor in Trombay, and the principal expansion, a very spacious one, between them. Such an arrangement is highly favourable to the deposit of mud, which accordingly has formed there in very large quantities, and evidently from an early period. Indeed, it seems probable that at one time this space communicated with the Mahim basin, across the marsh just south of Koorla, and now traversed by the high road. The Chimboor Causeway has been placed at the lower of the two contractions named above. Its effect will of course be materially to hasten the formation of mud to the northward, even to the extent of choking up the broad and deep channel hitherto kept open by the passage of the tidal stream. But the effect of the causeway upon the tract to the southward, between it and Sewree, will be of an opposite description. This tract, instead of receiving, as heretofore, the waters charged with mud from the northward, will be visited by those only, comparatively clear, which flow round Trombay from the southward. The sides of the channel will no doubt continue, as they have already begun, to fall in, and as there will be no current to remove them

Chimboor Causeway: its effects.

thence, the deep places will become filled up and the whole surface more nearly uniform, a state of things which is now going forward near to the Causeway. This is a very different thing from an increased general deposit, which, I think, on its south side, the Causeway has no tendency to produce.

Deposits.—Proposed mode of augmenting them.

40. If, then, all these things be as they are here stated, and it be desired to augment the deposit upon the existing marshes, or to add to their extent, it appears to me that the measures to be adopted are sufficiently evident:—

I.—To throw a broad but light bund across between Bombay and Trombay, a little north of Sewree, where the channel narrows and shoals and becomes nearly dry at low water. An opening large enough to admit salt boats should be left in the middle of the bund. Such a barrier will check the entrance of the *comparatively* clear waters of the lower harbour, while the opening in it will admit of the passage of salt boats, and of a sufficient current either way to keep a channel open. The included marshes must of course be protected with lesser bunds, and recovered in the usual way.

II.—To make one or more openings in the Chimboor Causeway, by which means the muddy waters of the upper harbour in their way down from Tanna, will be admitted into, and will deposit copiously upon the tract which it is proposed to recover.

III.—To reopen the archway in the Sion Causeway so that the surplus muddy waters may find an exit into the Mahim basin. This part of the operation would of course be materially aided by the limitation of the waterway allowed in the Mahim Causeway, but, on the other hand, the rush of water from Salsette during the rains is far too powerful to allow of the serious contemplation, at any rate at present, of this measure.

Precautions.

41. The opening in the proposed Sewree bund should of course be properly protected and fended in a manner suited to the lightness of the soil. The object of the openings in the Chimboor and Sion Causeways (the arch in the latter being possibly out of repair) being intended for waterways only, would be sufficiently attained by a mere removal and refacing of a part of the Causeway, carrying the roadway across upon girders. If these measures be adopted, it appears to me that the muddy waters will be made to pass slowly

over the whole tract to be recovered, and will finally be discharged into the sea and into the harbour, as they evidently were before the construction of the Causeways.

* * * * * * *

I have, &c.,

(Signed) C. T. CLARK.

No. 4192.

To G. T. CLARK, Esq.,

Civil Engineer.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your report on the Salt Marshes between Sewree Fort and the Sion and Chimboor Causeways, with accompaniments, I have the honour, by direction of the Board, to state, that there are one or two points on which they desire to have your further explanation before submitting your report to Government.

2. Referring, therefore, to your 3rd para. in which you state what you conceive to have been your instructions, the 2nd point is "to ascertain the probable effect of the construction of the Chimboor Causeway combined with the closure of the Sion Causeway"

3. Your reply on this head appears to be contained in the 37th and 39th paras. of your report in which you state that the consequence of closing the Sion Causeway has been to create on its eastern side (and consequently to the southward of the Chimboor Causeway) a rapid increase of deposit, which deposit must, under present circumstances, have come round by the south of Trombay.

4. You state that the effect of the Chimboor Causeway has been to hasten the deposit of mud to the northward, but the very contrary to the southward, of the Causeway, the latter tract being visited only by the "comparatively clear" waters that come round by the south of Trombay, and that you are consequently of opinion that the Chimboor Causeway has no tendency to produce an increase deposit on the tract to its south.

5. There is here an apparent contradiction, that if the waters that wash into that tract from the southward are too pure to effect a general increase of the deposit, whence is the increase of deposit on the eastern side of the Sion Causeway?

6. The Board infer that this apparent contradiction will be explained by your having spoken (when discussing the consequence of closing the Sion Causeway), not of what would take place, and is taking place now, but of what actually did take place at the time

which was previous to the construction of the Chimboor Causeway, and by your supposing that the deposit came from the northward.

7. Nevertheless, the Board desire to be fully satisfied of your views on the above points.

8. The conclusion that the Chimboor Causeway has no tendency to produce an increased deposit to the southward, rests on a matter of fact, viz., the extent of purification that the waters have obtained in sweeping round the east and south of Trombay, for the still water produced to the southward of the Causeway is peculiarly favorable to the deposit of the mud, if there is any to deposit.

9. The Board, therefore, would wish to be informed of the grounds of your opinion regarding the pureness of the water above mentioned, whether personal observation, &c.

10. The 3rd point of your instructions you conceive to have been to report "what prospect exists of the whole channel becoming so filled up as to allow of a communication between the Islands of Bombay, Salsette, and Trombay, and of the employment of the space so recovered for the purposes of cultivation."

11. On the above your report does not appear explicit. In your 31st para. you state the Harbour is never likely to become a "cul-de-sac," the velocity of the water in the monsoon being always sufficient to preserve a channel, that is, in the Tannah River, of which the Board entertain no doubt, but it does not therefore follow that the spaces between the Islands will not fill up.

12. The channel between the Islands being cut off as now by the Chimboor Causeway, the tendency, it appears to the Board, would be that they should fill up, though with what rapidity is another question; and on this question, therefore, the Board wish a more distinct explanation of your views, as also on their availableness for cultivation if filled up.

13. Adverting to the propositions in your 40th para., the Honourable Board, with regard to the two first, would wish to be informed whether you have considered the practical difficulties attending them. It is believed that in the construction of the Chimboor Causeway, it was necessary to displace, in the deepest part of the channel, 50 feet of mud before a foundation was obtained, and the difficulties in closing it were very great; it may be inferred, therefore, that your proposals, which involve the opening of a channel through both the Causeway and new bund, would be attended with difficulties which at least require consideration.

I have, &c.,

W. F. MARRIOTT,

Acting Secretary, Military Board.

Military Board Office,
Bombay, 17th October 1845.

To the Acting Secretary Military Board,

Bombay.

Bombay, 21st October, 1845.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 4192 of 1845, of the 17th instant, acknowledging the receipt of my report upon the Salt Marshes, and requesting further information upon certain points contained therein.

2. My answer to the instruction to ascertain the probable effect of the construction of the Chimboor Causeway, combined with the closure of the Sion Causeway, is contained, as supposed by you, in paras. 37 and 39 of my report, those paragraphs being of course taken in connection with the conclusions of the report generally.

3. In reference to these paragraphs, is written in para. 3 of your letter that you state "that the consequence of closing the Sion Causeway has been to create, on its eastern side (and consequently to the southward of the Chimboor Causeway) a rapid increase of deposit, which deposit must, under present circumstances, have come round by the south of Trombay." Now this is by no means what I intended to express, nor is it, I think, what is expressed in any part of my report. In para. 37 of the report the past tense is throughout employed, and I am referring to a state of things existing long before the construction of the Chimboor Causeway.

4. In the same way, in writing of the effect of the Chimboor Causeway in para. 39 of the report, I do not, as advanced in para. 4 of your letter, refer to what has been the effect of that barrier, but to what it is likely in future to be.

5. The observations contained in the two preceding paras. will, I hope, explain to the Board that the contradiction referred to in para. 5 of your letter, is, as that body surmise, apparent only, and will show that I look upon the deposits about the Sion Causeway as having been going forward ever since the construction of that work, and that I am of opinion that the effect of the Chimboor Causeway will be to increase the future deposit to the northward. This is the explanation anticipated in your 6th paragraph, and will, I hope, afford the full satisfaction required in your 7th.

6. In asserting an opinion that the Chimboor Causeway has no tendency to produce an increased deposit to the southward, I rest upon the general conclusion, the grounds of which are stated at length in the report, that the great influx of mud is from the northward, and consequently that if the direct flux of the waters from that quarter be barred, and if they be forced to make a long detour, through channels sufficiently wide to allow of their current being retarded, and consequently of the deposition of much of their mud, then, that when they do reach the southern side of the causeway,

they will be comparatively clear, that is, that they will be clearer than if they had flowed through the tract now closed by the causeway. I do not think that the still water produced by the causeway will counterbalance the greater distance traversed by the depositing water. The opinion as to the relative purity of the waters north and south of the causeway depends upon general grounds only. This paragraph will, I hope, meet the desires of the Board expressed in paras. 8 and 9 of your letter.

7. The opinion in which, in paras. 10 and 11 and 12 of your letter, the Board require me to be more explicit, must depend, principally, upon the measures adopted. If nothing be done, then I think the effect of the Chimboor and Sion Causeways upon the lands southward and eastward, producing, as they do, a "cul-de-sac," will be that described towards the end of para. 39 of the report; that is to say, the sides of the channels will fall in and fill up the deeper parts, and to the general tendency towards uniformity of surface thus produced, will be added the deposit, be it much, or be it little, of the waters from the southward. Under such a state of things a considerable tract will be produced about the present channels, which will be for a long time too low to be put to any useful purpose, but which will very gradually silt up to the great injury of the adjacent salt pans, which will thus lose their only feeder. This there seems reason to suppose will be the state of things if nothing be done.

8. Suppose, however, that the measures recommended in the report be adopted, and that a passage be allowed to the waters through the Chimboor Causeway; in such case I am of opinion that the general and direct influx of the muddy waters from the northward will not only, by flooding the tract, tend to raise its level, but that their principal current from the opening in the Chimboor, to that in the proposed bund, will always keep open a channel, narrow, but sufficient for the purposes required.

9. The answer now given refers, it will be observed, to the lands south of Chimboor only. The not less important tract of marsh north of Chimboor, and between it and Ghaut Kooper, was not included in my original instructions, and is only noticed in my report in consequence of the additional instructions afterwards sent to me, and which did not direct the actual survey of this tract, without which, of course, an opinion upon it in detail could not be given. The tendency, however, of the Chimboor Causeway is, without doubt, to hasten the deposit over all this space, and to cause the gradual filling up of the channel by which it is now traversed; and this latter effect is, I think, to be regarded as a serious evil, since there will exist no feeder for any future salt pans and nothing to act as a quick and convenient drain for the lands flooded during the monsoon. It appears to me that the effecting of

an opening in the Chimboor Causeway is no less important for the conservation of this, the northern, than of the southern channel.

10. The answer to the concluding clause of paragraph 12 of your letter will have been partially contained in what is stated above. Under any circumstances a very considerable time must elapse before the lands below the lower edge of the mangrove bushes, and now from 5 to 14 feet under high water mark, will be silted up to the lowest level fit for salt cultivation, still less for cultivation of any other description. But by far the larger tract of land above the lower edge of the mangroves is capable at this time, as far its level is concerned, of being converted into salt pans.

11. With reference to the question put in para. 13 of your letter, I beg to state that, before recommending the measures proposed in para. 40 of the report, I gave to the practical difficulties likely to affect their execution, the best consideration that the data in my possession admitted; also I had understood, generally, that the difficulties overcome in the construction of the Chimboor Causeway were considerable. I did not, however, allude to the difficulties attendant upon the measures recommended in my report, because I did not conceive that they were such as to render the works suggested impracticable; and if this were so, I considered that to go into details would have been to travel altogether beyond both the letter and spirit of my instructions.

12. In deference, however, to the apparent wishes of the Board as expressed in your concluding paragraph, I may state that I contemplated only the insertion of two or more large barrel culverts of cast iron or other material not likely to be injured by any future settlements into the body of the Chimboor Causeway, between high and low water mark, which would be sufficient for the purposed end, and would in no degree disturb the foundations. Perhaps also it may be proper to state that, in recommending a light bund, I mean a bund of lighter materials than brick or stone, and altogether of a different construction. I am of course well aware that the question of such a work would require trial probings and other preliminary examinations quite beyond my present instructions, before the site, or even practicability, of the work could be especially reported upon; but I conceive that the cost, though no doubt absolutely considerable, would be small as compared with the value of the results to be obtained. I am, however, anxious not to be understood to give a fixed opinion in this matter; no man could do so who had not proved the ground; and in any case there are officers in the Presidency whose experience in works upon these marshes is considerable, whereas I have none at all.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

G. T. CLARK.

No. 4475 OF 1845.

Public Works.

Territorial Department—Revenue.

To Colonel the Honourable Sir GEORGE ARTHUR, BART., K.C.H.,
Governor and President in Council.

HONOURABLE SIR,—We beg to submit to your Honourable Board the accompanying report by Mr. Clark of the survey of that portion of the marshes extending between Sewree Fort and the Sion and Chimboor Causeways.

2. For the fuller elucidation of his views we made a reference to him, copy of which, with his reply thereto, is annexed.

3. Mr. Clark's views and opinions are now very clear, and may be summed up as follows :—

I.—That his survey shows that the principal tract under present consideration, *viz.*, that to the south and east of Chimboor and Sion Causeways, contains (after ample deduction for bunds, waterways, platforms, &c., and for so much of the mud channel as from necessity or economy it might be desirable to leave open) 81 millions of square feet, or 2,280 begahs local measure, and that the marshes between Tanna and Trombay contain, after similar deductions, 600 millions square feet, or 16,915 begahs.

Vide paras. 6 of report.
Vide paras. 20 and 21.

II.—That when all present projects are completed, the Pans will occupy a very inconsiderable portion of the available district. Something short of 1,100,000 Indian maunds appears to be the present total produce. That the districts are capable of from 11 to 15 millions of maunds.

Vide paras. 23, 24.

III.—That the marshes between the three causeways and Sewree are but a small part of a large tract of land deposited, under similar circumstances, from Bellapoor, in the Concan, nearly to Kulwa, and from Tanna, in Salsette, to near Trombay village; that there is also a tendency to deposit along south-eastern shore of Bombay.

Vide para. 18.

IV.—That the deposit in the harbour is caused by the debris annually brought down by the swollen rivers. That the principal quantity is brought from the northward down the Tanna River, and consequently that the principal tendency to deposit will be on the northern or upper margin of any lands projecting into the harbour.

Para. 25.
Paras. 26 to 30.

V.—That the velocity of the Tanna River will prevent the harbour from ever becoming a "cul-de-sac."

Vide Para. 31.

VI.—That with regard to the rate of deposit it is impossible to determine it by the observations of one season. That it is slow. In para. 35 he recommends a plan for obtaining observations on this point.

Paras. 32 and 33.

Para. 35.

VII.—That the effect of the Sion Causeway was to create a rapid deposit, on its eastern side, of the mud brought from the northward. The Chimboor Causeway not having been at that time in existence.

Para. 37 of report, and para. 3 of subsequent explanatory letter.

VIII.—That the effect of the Mahim Causeway is a tendency to silt up the Mahim Basin.

Para. 38.

IX.—That the effect of the Chimboor Causeway is to cause a rapidly increased deposit to the north of it, even to the extent of filling up the channel, and cutting off the means of feeding future salt pans. That to the south of it the tendency is to check deposit by cutting off the muddy waters from the north, leaving the tract to be visited only by the comparatively clear waters that come round by the south of Trombay. That those waters will be so clear as to more than counterbalance the advantages as regards deposit of the still water caused to the south of the causeway. That the sides of the channel, however, in this tract will fall in and the whole surface become more nearly uniform, and tending gradually to silt up, and thus to cut off the means of feeding the adjacent salt pans.

Para. 39 of report, and paras. 5 to 9 inclusive of subsequent explanatory letter.

X.—That in consequence he proposes to make a passage through the Chimboor Causeway by means of cast iron culverts, to keep the channel open, and bring down the mud from the north to the tract south of the causeway, and to construct a bund of light materials further south, *viz.*, a little to the north of Sewree, with a view to cause the deposit of the mud that has come from the north through the Chimboor Causeway, and at the same time to check the entrance of the clear waters from the southward. An opening for the passage of boats to be left in the middle of the lower bund. The object of the whole being the bringing more ground to the proper level for salt pans on the tract between the Chimboor Causeway and proposed bund.

Para. 40.

XI.—That the archway in the Sion Causeway should be re-opened, to allow of any surplus muddy water being carried into the Mahim Basin to assist the deposit in the same.

Para. 40.

4. The conclusion to be drawn from the three first points of the foregoing summary appears to be that the manufacture of salt is the most profitable purpose to which these lands can be devoted provided the demand is, or will be, commensurate to a greatly increased supply. This Mr. Clark seems to have taken for granted, but it is one which we have no means of determining, and we can only point it out to your Honourable Board, as a point deserving special attention in considering of the disposal of these marshes.

5. We see no reason to question the 4th and 5th points.

6. The plan alluded to in the 6th point for determining the rate of deposit might be tried hereafter, should your Honourable Board deem the prosecution of the inquiry desirable.

7. With regard to the 7th, 8th and 9th, points, *viz.*, the effect of the three causeways, the degree of some of the effects being left doubtful, Mr. Clark's conclusions appear, on the whole, just.

8. The conclusion, however, that Mr. Clark draws as to the means of rendering the tract in question most available for salt pans appears in some respects very questionable.

9. The opening in the Chimboor Causeway by means of culverts appears desirable with a view to keeping open the channel, and thereby the means of feeding the pans. But the other object proposed therefrom by Mr. Clark, to bring down the mud from the north to the tract south of the Causeway, we cannot imagine it will effect. The quantity of mud that would be carried through these culverts, especially when it is remembered that the stream would wash both ways through them with the ebb and flow of the tides, would hardly affect the large tract to the south.

10. And if the foregoing be correct, the whole object for which the enormous expense of the lower bund is proposed, is removed, *viz.*, by checking the flow to cause the deposit of the mud brought through the Chimboor Causeway.

11. There appears, however, another great objection to the lower bund, *viz.*, that by thus narrowing and confining the entrance of the waters into the tract between the bunds, the tide would never rise to its present height, and a very small difference in level is sufficient to render the whole of the present pans entirely useless.

12. With regard to Mr. Clark's proposition to re-open the Sion Causeway in order to allow the superfluous muddy water from the northward an entry into the Mahim Basin to assist the deposit

therein, we are not of opinion that advantage can be anticipated from the measure, as we believe that it is not desirable to retain a larger quantity of water in the Mahim Basin than may be expected under present circumstances, considering the small outlet through the Causeway..

13. We, therefore, are opinion that the first point for consideration is the maximum supply of salt that will render the present proportionate profits, and that, after providing for that, the remaining marsh lands are of no greater value than to be recovered by degrees and converted into salt batty lands, provided no measures for recovery of land be ever taken which would interfere with the feeding of the pans, which are far more valuable than the richest cultivation, and we also consider that it would be desirable, if feasible (which there seems no reason to doubt), at once to open, as proposed by Mr. Clark, a channel in the Chimboor Causeway by means of culverts, with a view to keeping the channel open, and thus preventing the otherwise gradual destruction of the present pans below.

14. The following documents accompany this letter:—

Report by Mr. Clark, dated 9th October 1845.
Letter to do. from Secretary, Military Board, No. 4192, dated 17th October 1845.
Letter from Mr. Clark, dated 21st October 1845.
Sketch of the shores A.
Three Plans, marked 1, 2, and 3.
Seven Sections, marked, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7,

We have &c.,

Military Board Office,
Bombay, 6th November 1845.

No. 37 OF 1846.

To THE ACTING SECRETARY TO THE MILITARY BOARD.

SIR,—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 314, of the 21st instant, calling for my opinion on the views of the Military Board expressed in the accompaniments to your letter, on Mr. Clark's proposal to open the archway in the Sion Causeway.

2. In reply, I will state a few facts to enable the Board to judge of the weight to be attached to the opinion which I shall offer.

3. The sill of the bridge of the Mahim Causeway, with a breadth of waterway of 120 feet, is full six feet above low water mark of spring tides, and at low water of neap tides, when the water in the Mahim Basin is lowest, there has not hitherto been less than from 6 to 9 inches of water flowing from the basin towards the sea.

4. The great increase to the said bank in front of the Custom House at Mahim, and especially in that portion of it to the north of the Catholic Church, has taken place since the closing up of the archway in the Sion Causeway. In the years 1829 and 1830, when I had occasion to visit Mahim, the whole of the sand bank used to be covered at high water spring tides, and boats could come alongside the projecting open room at the Custom House.

5. The water from the Tanna river only comes by the kharee on the north of the Chimboor Causeway at the height of the spring tides, and with a depth of about one foot; Captain Crawford, who constructed the Chimboor Causeway, and had great opportunities of observing the localities, is my informant on this point.

6. It is out of my power to make so satisfactory a report as I could wish on the matter which has been referred to me; this would involve a residence on the spot of probably a month's duration; but I think the following points appear self-evident as the probable result of re-opening the archway in the Sion Causeway:—

1*st*.—The removal of a large quantity of the mud which has filled in on the eastern side of the Sion Causeway.

2*nd*.—The tendency which the flow of water will have to carry off the deposit from the western to the eastern side of the Sion Causeway, and thence down towards the harbour.

3*rd*. The certainty that all the deposit brought down by the Coorla River, more especially at ebb tide, would be carried to the eastern side of the Sion Causeway, from the outlet in the Mahim Causeway.

4*th*.—The great probability that the sand bank on the northern side of the Mahim Causeway would be gradually carried away to the eastern side of the Sion Causeway, so soon as the water in the Mahim Basin shall fall below the sill of the bridge in the Mahim Causeway.

7*th*—It is possible that the re-opening of the archway in the Sion Causeway might, at times, admit of a large quantity of water being retained in the Mahim Basin, but to so small an extent as not in any way to endanger the stability of the Mahim Causeway; I am however, of opinion that the effect of the measure, generally, would be a very considerable reduction of the water in the Mahim Basin, owing to the opening in the Sion Causeway being of a limited extent as regards the flowing in of the tide, but of sufficient extent on account of its depth, to lower in a very short time the water in the Mahim Basin.

8*th*—At high water of spring tides there is a difference in the level of the water on the sea side, and on the inner side of the Mahim Causeway, of at least four feet; any reduction, therefore, in the water now contained in the Mahim Basin would increase this

difference of level, and consequently would subject the Mahim Causeway to a greater head of water than has hitherto acted on it. This might give rise to a settlement in the work; the current through the Mahim Bridge from seaward would also be proportionably increased; it is at present as rapid as I should wish to see it. It should also be borne in mind that the abutments of the arch in the Sion Causeway would be opposed to a tremendous rush of water a force that they have never hitherto experienced, the result of which on the work it is impossible to foretell.

9th.—From the above facts, and the results which I expect would follow the re-opening of the archway in the Sion Causeway, I am decidedly of opinion that it would be imprudent to re-open the archway at the present time, or until the sand bank now rapidly forming on the sea side of the Mahim Causeway, shall have effectually protected that work on both its faces.

I have the honor to be, &c.,

J. J. F. CRUICKSHANK, Captain,

Superintendent of Repairs.

Bombay, 28th January 1846.

No. 507 OF 1846.

Territorial Department—Revenue.

Public Works.

To

COLONEL THE HONOURABLE SIR GEORGE ARTHUR, BART.,

K. C. H.,

Governor and President in Council.

HONOURABLE SIR,—With reference to the 14th paragraph of Mr. Secretary Townsend's letter No. 295, of the 16th ultimo, requesting us to consult Captain Cruickshank on Mr. Clark's third proposition for re-opening the central arch in the Sion Causeway, and to report his opinion for the information of Government, we have the honour to hand up the amended letter from that Officer No. 37 of the 28th ultimo, on the subject.

2. Captain Cruickshank has, we beg to observe, arrived at the same conclusion as ourselves, namely, that it is undesirable to re-open the archway in the Sion Causeway, but on different grounds.

3. Mr. Clark had anticipated that the opening of the archway would admit the superflous muddy waters from the northward into the Mahim Basin, increasing the deposit therein.

4. Captain Cruickshank's opinion, on the contrary, is that, though the opening would at times admit a larger quantity of water into the Mahim Basin, yet that the general effect would be to reduce the quantity, as the outlet in the Sion Causeway is, according to Captain Cruickshank's statement, fully six feet lower than that of the Mahim Causeway, and the eflux through the Sion Causeway would far exceed the influx, thus generally reducing the quantity of water in the Mahim Basin, and probably carrying away the whole of the sand-bank that has formed on the northern side of the Mahim Causeway.

5. Consequently, in Captain Cruickshank's opinion, the measure would not only have the very contrary effect, as regards deposit, to that anticipated by Mr. Clark, but would also endanger both the Causeways—the Mahim Causeway by increasing the difference of level already existing, to the extent of four feet, at high water spring tides, between the water on one side and the other; and endangering the Sion Causeway by subjecting the archway to a tremendous rush of water which it has never yet experienced.

6. In the general opinion expressed by Captain Cruickshank, wo beg to state that we are inclined fully to concur; at the same time we apprehend our former opinion also to be correct, that the object Mr. Clark proposed to attain (*viz.*, a considerable increase of the waters in the Mahim Basin) was undesirable, which still would appear to be the case, although a considerable reduction would be equally objectionable. We did not at the time investigate the correctness of Mr. Clark's anticipation of such a result, deeming that result undesirable, though from Captain Cruickshank's report now submitted, we are of opinion that the measure would produce the very opposite result.

We have, &c.,

Military Board Office,
Bombay, 3rd February 1846.

No. 849 of 1846.

Territorial Department—Revenue.

To the Military Board,

Bombay.

Gentlemen,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated 3rd instant, No. 507, submitting, with your opinion, a communication from Captain Cruickshank on the proposition of Mr.

Clark for re-opening the central arch in the Sion Causeway, and in reply to inform you, that, under the opinions submitted, His Honor in Council does not consider it advisable to re-open the arch in the Causeway in question.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) E. H. TOWNSEND,

Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 26th February 1846.

No. 69 OF 1846.

TO THE ACTING SECRETARY TO THE MILITARY BOARD,

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter in the Territorial Department, No. 813 of 1846, calling upon me to furnish estimates for making a passage through the Chimboor Causeway, and constructing a new bund above Sewree.

2. In reply I beg most respectfully to state that my time is so fully occupied, that I really have not leisure to apply myself to the work in question; it is one of such magnitude, and of so costly a nature, as to demand the utmost exactness in surveys and measurements, preliminary to forming even the rough designs for such a work, and I should require to reside for some short time at least on the spot, to enable me to make them, together with correct soundings and other necessary observations, before I could venture to undertake to furnish the plans and estimates.

3. A mere reference to the map, and what present knowledge I have of the ground, leads me to suppose that a bund of not less than two miles in length would be required to be constructed over a flat of deep mud, of the conditions of which I am quite ignorant, and I trust, that, under such circumstances, the Military Board will not require me to furnish plans and estimates, without making some arrangements that would enable me to draw them out in a satisfactory manner.

4. In the meantime I trust I shall not be deemed presuming in offering a few remarks on this subject, and which my knowledge of the locality and circumstances connected with it, gained whilst I was engaged in the construction of the present Chimboor Causeway, may excuse my doing.

5. In the first place the leaving of a waterway in the Chimboor Causeway was frequently contemplated during its progress; my opinion then was, and still is, that any opening made in that work would greatly endanger its safety, and I am not now speaking from recollection alone, as it happened that only a day or two previous to receiving your letter now under reply, I paid a visit to this work as

a matter of curiosity, to see in what state it was, after standing for nearly five years.

6. It is to be recollected that this work is nothing but a mass of loose stone thrown down, and allowed to settle by its own weight. In this way an immense mass of mud was displaced; but whether the work at present rests on a firm foundation or not, it is impossible to say; but my opinion is, that anything that tends to prevent the silting up of the whole flat (and which is now rapidly going on) or disturb the mud in the vicinity of the work, will endanger its stability—indeed I must confess that I do not know what method to propose of forming the cuts which would not in all probability ruin the whole work on the occurrence of the first high tide.

7. And here I must beg to notice an error into which Mr. Clark has apparently fallen, *viz.*, that silting up of the channel between Trombay, Bombay, and Salsette is due to the deposit from the water brought down through the channel to the *north* of Trombay, between Kerole and Chimboor. Having resided for sometime in this neighbourhood, I can inform the Board, that, except at high water spring tides, no water passes through this passage, as it is at much too high a level. For about an hour during spring tides a small portion of water certainly does come round, but as far as it is concerned in silting up the channel, its influence is next to nothing. Mr. Clark, by the way in which he dwells upon this point, evidently imagines that it is a channel with a constant ebb and flow of water through it; he, moreover, remarks that on this account, the effect of it will be to silt up the kharree north of the Chimboor bund, whilst the clear waters coming round the southward of Trombay will have but little effect on the south side of the causeway.

8. Now, on my visit but a few days ago, I found that precisely the contrary was the fact, *viz.*, that the only supply of salt water to the *northward* of the causeway being that which had already filtered through the work from the southward, the filling up on the north side had progressed, though slowly; whilst, on the other hand, on the south side, where I was prepared to see some change the three years I had been absent, I was perfectly astonished at the very large expanse of mud which has formed in that comparatively short period of time. In this you will see that facts are exactly contrary to the theory of Mr. Clark, as expressed generally throughout his report, and particularly in the 6th para. of his reply under date 21st October, to the Board's queries.

9. What the effects of opening the archway in the Sion Causeway might be, I should hesitate to say, as it is a most difficult point to judge of, but I must say that I do not anticipate any good from it.

10. It was frequently suggested to me that I had not provided sufficient waterway in my plan for the Mahim Causeway, and it was I believe, in contemplation to open the arch of that of Sion on this

account, and had I been wrong in my calculation, such opening would have decidedly been necessary; but as it now appears that the waterway I provided has proved amply sufficient, I do trust that things may, for the present at least, be permitted to remain as they are until some judgment can be formed regarding the progress of the silting up of the Mahim Basin. The arch could be opened at any time; it might not be so easy to close it securely, and at a moment's notice, in case of necessity, and its opening might produce effects which cannot be foreseen.

11. I think it will be found that the flood is considerably later in the Mahim Basin than on the east side of the Sion Causeway, consequently there would be two ebbs and flows at this point, and throughout down to the bridge in the Mahim Causeway, causing a constant current, and tending in some measure to prevent deposit for which all things at present seem favourable.

12. I am not able to gather from Mr. Clark's report what description of bund he proposed at Sewree when he says that, in recommending a light bund, he means a bund of lighter materials than brick or stone; I can only suppose that he must allude to wood. To say nothing of the enormous cost of such a construction, might I ask if Mr. Clark has ever been in this part of Bombay harbour during high water in the monsoon, and when it has so happened that the wind has drawn well round to the southward? I can assure the Board that at such times a sea runs there that would soon clear away any work but one of the very strongest description.

13. I need not refer more particularly to the 9th para. of the military Board's letter to Government No. 4475 of 1845, to which you drew my attention. Supposing Mr. Clark's assumption correct, that a body of water holding much earthy matter in suspension came in around the north of Trombay, I can only agree with the Board that the small quantity that would pass through the culverts would have little effect on the silting up of the ground to the southward of the Chimboor Causeway; but I have already shown that Mr. Clark is in error on this point, and that all the silting up of this channel is due to the water flowing in from the southward.

14. Hoping that any remarks I may have made upon points upon which my opinion has not been directly asked, may not be deemed obtrusive.

I have &c.,

J. H. G. CRAWFORD, Captain,

Acting Superintendent of Repairs.

Bombay,
Superintendent of Repairs' Office,
5th March 1846.

No. 1212 of 1846.

Public Works.

Territorial Department—Revenue.

To Colonel the Honourable Sir GEORGE ARTHUR, Bart., K.C.H.

Governor and President in Council.

HONOURABLE SIR,— With reference to Mr. Secretary Townsend's letter No. 610, dated 11th ultimo, authorising us to commit to Captain Crawford, Superintendent of Repairs, the preparation of the estimates for making a passage through the Chimboor Causeway, and constructing a new bund above Sewree, we have the honour to submit a letter from that officer, No. 69, dated 5th instant, on this subject; and we beg to express our concurrence in his statement that it is impossible for him to submit a satisfactory plan and estimate for a work of such magnitude as the new bund, without devoting a degree of time and attention to preliminary investigations which it is not in his power to spare.

2. We would also respectfully suggest that, considering the great difference of opinion as to the utility of the new bund, if constructed, it is undesirable to incur at present the very considerable expense that would attend even the estimating of it. The new bund, acccording to Captain Crawford, would be more than three times the length of the Chimboor Causeway, and would be constructed under still more difficult circumstances, so that, in any case, it would appear desirable to estimate in the first place the probable additional revenue obtainable instead of the expense of the measure; the result of the first step may dispense with the second; but if the expense of the work be estimated first, the revenue obtainable must be also calculated, with the probable conclusion that the project be dropped.

3 With reference to our opinion that it was desirable to open the Chimboor Causeway, not with the view of letting in mud from the northward, which was Mr. Clark's object, but to prevent the destruction of the salt pans on the south-side by silting up, we could now observe that, considering Captain Crawford's statement that he can devise no method of effecting it which would not, in his opinion, in all probability ruin the work the first high tide; and his further opinion of the probable consequences of the disturbance of the mud if the opening were effected; considering also our ignorance of the exact circumstances which afford present stability, it becomes questionable whether the gradual and calculable destruction of the pans, which will be accompanied by a corresponding space of ground becoming available for salt pans further southward, is not preferable to the risk of immediate destruction to the causeway and the salt pans together.

We have &c.,

Military Board Office,
Bombay, 19th March 1846.

APPENDIX W.

ADDRESS TO LORD MAYO.

At a special general meeting of the Chamber of Commerce, held on the 16th December 1868, an address, prepared by the Committee of Management, and read to the members present by the Secretary, was, on the motion of the Honourable A. H. Campbell, of Messrs. Ritchie, Steuart, & Co., seconded by Mr. R. Ahlers, of Messrs. Volkart Brothers, unanimously approved, and ordered to be presented to the Right Honourable the Earl of Mayo, K. P., Viceroy and Governor General of India, elect—on a convenient occasion as early as possible after his arrival.

The Chairman of the Chamber, accompanied by the Secretary accordingly waited upon Lord Mayo on the subject of the address soon after his arrival to ascertain when it would suit His Lordship's convenience to receive a deputation of the members of the Chamber for the purpose of formally presenting the same. Lord Mayo received them very cordially, but explained at the same time that he could not receive an address in any public or formal manner before he assumed the office of Viceroy and Governor General, that his visit to Bombay was of a private and unofficial character, but that it would afford him much pleasure to meet a few of the merchants and to confer with them on the leading topics mentioned in the address, as well as on other matters affecting the commercial interests of this part of India. The address, from the Chamber to Lord Mayo, of which printed copies had been sent to his Lordship, is as follows :—

To the Right Honourable the EARL of MAYO, K. P.,

VICEROY AND GOVERNOR GENERAL OF INDIA, ELECT.

MY LORD;

The Members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, while uniting with all other classes of the community in giving to your Lordship a cordial welcome on the occasion of your first landing on the shores of India, further avail themselves of the opportunity of bringing personally to your Lordship's notice some of the commercial wants of this Presidency, on the eve of your assuming the high office of Viceroy and Governor-General of India, to which Her Majesty's has appointed you.

Nearly twenty years ago the merchants of this city took advantage of the presence amongst them for a few days, of one of the most illustrious of your predecessors in the Government of India, the Marquis of Dalhousie, to represent to him the serious disadvantages under which the Bombay Presidency then laboured from the absolute want of anything like adequate means of intercommunication between Bombay and the various districts in the interior.

The merchants of that day most truly stated "that with a population, after London and Paris, greater than that of any City of Europe or America, the trade of Bombay was far less than that of many, in other respects, much inferior to it."

So inadequate were then the means of communication with the interior, that in the memorial from the merchants to Lord Dalhousie it was represented—"that many valuable articles of produce, were, for want of carriage and a market, often left to perish in the fields, while the cost of those which did find their way to this port was enormously enhanced, to the extent sometimes of two hundred per cent."

Happily such remarks, descriptive of a state of things, justly complained of in 1849-50, do not apply with the same force in 1868.

Within the last eighteen years, Railways, the Electric Telegraph, and cheap and improved postal communication have been introduced into this country, and the Bombay Presidency, in common with the rest of India, has participated in the benefits that have already resulted from these important engines of progress and civilisation.

We thankfully recognise the advantages that have accrued to this part of India by the introduction of two great trunk lines of Railway, viz. the Great Indian Peninsula and the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railways, which have their termini at Bombay; but at the same time we have respectfully to submit to your Lordship, that unless something more be speedily done in supplementing the existing trunk lines, by local lines or feeders to the principal seats of agricultural industry, and by the introduction of new lines into important districts still unopened, the resources of this Presidency must continue to a great extent undeveloped.

Bombay unlike, and in this respect comparing disadvantageously with, Bengal, possesses no navigable rivers or canals, and there is scarcely a good road, or indeed, with one exception, any other than a fair weather road in any part of the Presidency.

To this day the fine province of Guzerat, the richest and most fertile on this side of India, remains but partially developed, even after the introduction of a trunk line of Railway, because the province is without roads or feeders by which the producing districts may be brought into contact with the Railway, and their produce by these means conveniently and rapidly carried to market.

With a view of opening up the Northern portion of Guzerat and the important province of Kattiawar, a proposed short extension of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway from Ahmedabad to Veerumgaum, was strongly recommended by this Chamber, to the consideration of the Government of Bombay. The scheme received the cordial support of the local Government, but it has been refused sanction by the Government of India, pending, we were informed, "the consideration of other railway lines thought to be of greater State importance."

Within the last few days it has been pointedly brought to our notice on reliable official authority, that the people from Marwar and other Rajpootana States, where famine has already set in or is imminently impending, are crowding in thousands into British Guzerat to seek the necessaries of life. We would respectfully suggest to your Lordship, that by giving immediate sanction to this short line of Railway, the means of living would be provided for numbers who are at present destitute, and a public work of great value and importance would at the same time, from this unlooked for abundance of labour, be executed at a comparatively moderate cost.

Two years ago the members of this Chamber laid before the local Government their views in reference to the commercial importance of two great Railway schemes that have been long under the consideration of the Government of India, namely, the Indus Valley Line, intended to connect Kurrachee with the Punjab, and a line of Railway through Rajpootana that would connect Bombay, *vid* Guzerat and Rajpootana, with Delhi and Northern India.

It would be difficult to conceive two lines of Railway more necessary to India generally, or calculated to confer greater benefits on the inhabitants of the Western and Northern parts of it.

The proposed Rajpootana line especially is urgently needed for the convenience of a trade of great value that has long existed between Bombay and the Rajpoot States and the districts north of these; the trade suffers at present from the difficulties connected with the existing means of inland transit, while with railway communication it may, on the evidence of those who are thoroughly conversant with the trade and habits of the people, be expected to expand to an almost indefinite extent.

The Government of Bombay have urgently pressed on the Government of India the commercial and political importance of the proposed Rajpootana line, but we believe no practical steps towards its early construction have yet been taken, while our latest information on the subject, we regret to state, is to the effect that the matter is now entirely at a stand-still in consequence of another route having been suggested in supersession of that which had been previously thoroughly surveyed and all but sanctioned to be carried out.

The southern portion of the Bombay Presidency, popularly known as the Southern Mahratta Country, and one of our most important cotton fields—where, through the persevering exertions of the present Cotton Commissioner under the sanction and encouragement of the local Government, a description of cotton grown from acclimatised American seed has attained a high character amongst the other varieties that find their market in Liverpool—is at the present moment without roads, or any suitable means of transit for bringing either the valuable produce of the districts to the seaboard, or merchandise to the interior,—and, as a consequence, European manufactures have as yet found there but a comparatively limited market.

There is probably no part of this Presidency where railway communication is more needed than in the Southern Mahratta Country, or where the introduction of a Railway would produce more beneficial results. A line to the Dharwar Collectorate would not merely give facilities for the development of an improved cotton culture, and the extension of trade; but would also be a means of opening up the province of Mysore and the adjacent districts, and of bringing their produce to Bombay, the great market of Western India.

Six months ago, the Chamber called the attention of the local Government to the state of the upper part of the Harbour of Bombay, which, on reliable evidence laid before us, appears to have been steadily silting up for years past; and at the same time stated that if measures were not speedily taken to remedy the evil, that portion of the Harbour would by and by be unavailable for ships even of moderate tonnage.

The representation of the Chamber received prompt attention from the local Government, and the question is now receiving their deliberate consideration. Our object in bringing this important subject to your Lordship's notice, is to make a respectful request that such measures as the Government of Bombay may deem necessary for removing the injurious action that has been so long going on may receive the ready support and the sanction of the Government of India; for promptitude in applying a remedy to the silting up of Bombay Harbour is a matter not merely of local but of national importance.

The uncertain and unsatisfactory working of the Indo-European Telegraph still continues a constant source of complaint and annoyance to the Indian public. Under the conviction that so long as we are dependent on countries but partially civilised, beyond the control of the British and Indian Governments, our telegraphic communication with Europe can never be efficient,—this Chamber, in common with the other Chambers of Commerce in this country, memorialized the Government of India for a submarine line between Suez and Bombay. The project was viewed favourably by the present Government of India, though discouraged in reference to the

question of guarantee by the Secretary of State; but we trust, on a fitting occasion presenting itself, Your Lordship will give your support to the only plan of telegraphic communication between England and India, which seems likely to meet the requirements of Government and the public.

The increase in the rates of Overland Postage imposed at the beginning of this year, simultaneously with the introduction of a weekly mail, was met with a general feeling of dissatisfaction throughout India. The mercantile community and the numerous residents in this country having relations with England, consider their interests have been injuriously affected by the action of the Home Government in this matter, and we would now solicit Your Lordship's assistance, in getting the objectionable impost rescinded.

We would respectfully but earnestly beg to call your Lordship's attention to the question of irrigation and water supply, for which so little has yet been done in this Presidency. The subject is brought forcibly before us at the present time, by the wide-spread distress in large and populous districts north of Bombay, where the rain-fall this season has been altogether inadequate to the necessities of the people.

The Government of Bombay are sensible of the great importance of the schemes we have taken the liberty of bringing to your Lordship's notice, and they have repeatedly urged the consideration of most of them on the Government of India, though hitherto without effect.

The Marquis of Salisbury, when replying, a few weeks ago, to an address from the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, is reported to have said—"In the main the question of Cotton, and the question of commerce in general in India, is a question of conveyance. It is the opening of navigable rivers and the opening of railways to which you must look." In the spirit of these views we entirely concur: and we trust that when your Lordship assumes your high position as head of the Government of this country, the programme for India of all your predecessors for years past, viz: Railways, Irrigation, and other public works, may, as regards the wants of this Presidency, receive, not merely a more practical application than has hitherto been vouchsafed by the Supreme Government, but that it will be applied in a measure fitting the important position which Bombay occupies in its relation to the great commercial interest both of England and India.

By order, and on behalf of the Members of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

HAMILTON MAXWELL, Chairman.

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Chamber of Commerce,
Bombay, 21st December 1868.

A deputation accordingly, by appointment, consisting of the following gentlemen—Mr. Hamilton Maxwell, Chairman of the Chamber, the Honourable A. H. Campbell, the mover of the address, Mr. Ahlers, of Messrs. Volkart Brothers, seconder of the address, Mr. Donald Graham, of Messrs. W. and A. Graham & Co., Mr. A. E. Ashley, of the London, Asiatic, and American Company, Mr. J. P. Negroponte, of Messrs. Ralli Brothers, Mr. G. A. Kittredge, of Messrs. Stearns, Hobart & Co., members of the Committee of Management; Mr. W. Knox, Agent G. I. P. Railway, Mr. C. Currey, Agent B. B. and C. I. Railway, and Mr. Taylor, Secretary to the Chamber—waited on Lord Mayo at Parell, on Monday, the 28th instant. Lord Mayo, who was attended by Major Burne, his private Secretary—after the introduction of the deputation said—"I have already explained to Mr. Maxwell and Mr. Taylor the reasons which have led me to consider that I ought not to receive any public address until I have been sworn in as Governor General of India. My visit to Bombay is entirely of an unofficial character, my sole object being to inform myself to the utmost on all matters connected with this portion of our Indian Empire. I thank you, therefore, most sincerely for having given me this opportunity of conferring with you upon the important topics referred to in the paper which I hold in my hand—[a printed copy of the Chamber's address]. It will be my duty to give the most earnest attention to those questions, and to consider with care and respect every suggestion that may be made for developing and extending those great interests which are centered at Bombay. I hope, therefore, that you will kindly permit me frankly to discuss these with you, feeling sure that I shall derive much advantage from ascertaining, as far as possible, your opinions thereon."

After these preliminary remarks, Lord Mayo proceeded to discuss, with the gentlemen who formed the deputation, each of the subjects alluded to in the address, especially those referring to the questions of cotton supply, facilities for the transport of produce and merchandise, railways, and irrigation, to which His Lordship said "he attached the greatest importance."

The conference, which was of an interesting and animated character, lasted for nearly two hours.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

28th December 1868.

APPENDIX X.

MISCELLANEOUS.
A GOLD CURRENCY FOR INDIA.

No. 1100 OF 1868.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT,

Bombay Castle, 24th July 1868.

TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay.

SIR,—I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a letter from the Government of India No. 766, dated the 30th June last, relative to the introduction of a Gold Currency into India, and to request that you will be so good as to favour the Right Honourable the Governor in Council with your opinion on the points therein mooted.

2. The favour of an early answer is requested.

I have, &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

For Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 766.

(Confidential.)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA—FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT.

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

SIR,—It is doubtless known to the Government of Bombay that questions relating to the possible introduction of a Gold Currency into India have been under the consideration of the Supreme Government, and I am now to request the expression of opinion, in a confidential form, on the following points.

2. The Notification issued by the Government of India in November 1864, declaredly with the view that "the circulation of British and Australian sovereigns in all parts of British India should

be encouraged and facilitated," though to some extent successful at first, has for some time remained inoperative, inasmuch as few sovereigns are now presented at the treasuries, and in the opinion of the best informed authorities seems likely to continue inoperative.

3. The cause of this is understood to be that in the Notification the amount of 10 Rs. offered as equivalent for the sovereign is not generally sufficient to attract sovereigns, inasmuch as the above rate is somewhat below the average market value and the intrinsic value of the sovereign.

4. Now, inasmuch as the Secretary of State, in his despatch of the 26th September 1864, desired that gold coin should be received into the public treasuries at a rate to be fixed by Government, and further observed that "it may be desirable to try as an experimental measure the course suggested," remarking that "this would facilitate the use of sovereigns in India," inasmuch, too, as the Notification of November 1864 was issued accordingly to facilitate the influx of sovereigns into India, which object had not been attained, apparently because the rate offered for the sovereign was too low,—the Government of India now deem that the question of the propriety of somewhat raising the proffered rate above 10 Rs. is one that claims early attention.

5. It will doubtless be in the recollection of the Government of Bombay that the average value of the sovereign, by which it is generally held that the rate to be offered as equivalent should be regulated, has been fully discussed in Sir William Mansfield's Minutes of 1864. Also paragraphs 16 to 19 inclusive of the Secretary of State's despatch of 26th September 1864 bear on the same subject.

6. Further, in reference to the possible consideration that the rate should be fixed mainly with reference to the price at which coined gold could be laid down in India, from the cheapest and nearest source of supply, namely, Australia, the Government of India would ask attention to the following passage in Mr. George Arbuthnot's Minute of September 1864. Adverting to Sir C. Trevelyan's opinion that "the sovereign must be rated, not with reference to its value in England, but solely with reference to the cost at which it can be obtained from the cheapest source of supply, that is, from Australia," Mr. Arbuthnot goes on to say—"It might be sufficient practical answer to this suggestion to observe that if the importations of treasure into India are to go on at their present rate * * * * Australia could not supply all the gold that might be required." Again he notes that, "notwithstanding the facilitates afforded by the Indian market, it has yet been found profitable to our merchants to send direct from London one-third of the gold required in India."

7. Under all the circumstances, the Government of India wish to be favoured with the opinion of the Government of Bombay as

to whether the equivalent of 10 Rs. offered for the sovereign in 1864 should now be revised, and, if so, what exactly the new rate should be. On such a subject it is manifestly desirable that some selected gentlemen, who from special experience may be experts in this matter should be confidentially consulted. And if the Government of Bombay should see fit to consult any such gentlemen, the Government of India would desire to be placed in possession of their opinions It is evident that on a consideration of the average rates which have actually prevailed in past years, and which may be expected to prevail in the immediate future, the new rate to be offered for the sovereign should be fixed as precisely as may be reasonably possible. If it be proposed too low, then sovereigns will hardly be presented at the treasuries. If it be proposed at a rate which might be deemed high, then sovereigns will probably be presented, but in that case the subsequent disposal of them might be difficult. Whereas our object should clearly be to establish a rate which, while not prohibiting their presentation, as seems to be the case at present, should induce the public to look to the superior convenience of gold as a measure of value when realizing dues from the public treasuries. These various considerations will doubtless occur to any experts who may be consulted.

8. Further, it will be in the recollection of the Government of Bombay that Section 7 of Act XVII. of 1835, relating to the coinage of gold pieces in India, has never been repealed; and is so far still capable of being put in force if that course should be found expedient.

In connection herewith, the following passage may be read from Sir C. Wood's despatch of September 1864:—

"I see no objection to reverting to a state of things which prevailed in India for many years, namely, that gold coin should be received into the public treasuries at a rate to be fixed by Government. This was the case with the Gold Mohur, or 15 Rupee piece, from 1835 till Lord Dalhousie's proclamation in 1852, and with other gold coins previously to the reformation of the currency in 1835."

9. It appears that many authorities are now of opinion that the objects for which the proclamation of 1852, prohibiting the receipt of Gold Mohurs in the treasuries, was issued, do hardly now exist; and Mr. Laing in 1862 expressed an opinion to the effect that such a proclamation had ceased to be wanted. Under all the circumstances there is reason for considering whether this proclamation should not now be withdrawn. And on this point I am to invite the opinion of the Government of Bombay.

10. It may be worthy of observation that if gold pieces were to be coined now in India, as formerly, the influx of gold into India, and the existence of considerable quantities of that metal in the country, might cause the presentation of a sufficient amount of gold to

the Mints for coinage. Also bar gold could be brought by the Mints for coinage, whenever the operation could be effected remuneratively.

11. But here a question arises as to whether the standard value of the 15 Rupee or 10 Rupee gold piece as fixed by Act XVII. of 1835 is, or is not, perfectly applicable to the present time, and to the immediate future. The Currency Commission, indeed, declared in paragraphs 26 and 27 of their report that "the Commission would draw attention to the fact that the price of the Gold Mohur, or Government piece of Rs. 15, as fixed by Act XVII. of 1835, is, as nearly as possible, the average market rate of the price of coined gold of the present day. That price, as sanctioned by law in 1835, seems to be the legitimate basis on which to found a gold legal tender coinage for India, consisting of pieces of Rs. 10 and 5 respectively; the 10 Rupee piece having the weight of 120 grains, or the 5 Rupee piece of 60 grains,"

12. But since 1866, when the evidence submitted by the Commission was taken, gold has at times risen in value, and the tendency of gold to rise in value, remarked by Sir William Mansfield in 1864, has somewhat further declared itself since that date. Consequently, there may be room for doubt whether, if gold pieces were now to be coined, the standard value as fixed in Act XVII. of 1835, or some other standard, should be adopted. This is an important point to which the Government of India would specially ask the attention of the Government of Bombay and of any gentlemen whose advise may be sought for.

13. I am to add that at present the Government of India is hardly prepared to recommend the declaration of any gold coins as legal tender. As at present advised, it would prefer to wait and see whether the adoption of the tentative measures brought under consideration in this despatch shall be found practicable, and whether, if adopted, they realize the anticipations that might be formed of them.

14. But if it be considered that for any special reasons legal tender should be at once recommended, then such reasons can be urged either by the Government of Bombay or by those who may be consulted.

15. The two main questions now proposed, namely, 1st, at what rate, as equivalent in Rupees, should English and Australian sovereigns be taken at the public treasuries; 2nd, at what standard value should 10 Rupee gold pieces be coined, supposing such coinage were resolved upon, are in some respects connected with each other, and to them the Government of India would invite early, though careful, attention.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

G. H. N. BATTEN,

Under Secretary to the Government of India.

Simla, the 30th June 1868.

[*Confidential.*]

To the Acting Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,

14*th September* 1868.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th July, submitting copy of a confidential letter from the Government of India, dated 30th June, on the subject of a Gold Currency for India, and requesting an expression of the opinion of this Chamber in a confidential form, on the various points raised therein.

The question of the introduction of a gold currency into this country has often been discussed by this Chamber, and a decided opinion as to its advantages, on the grounds both of economy and convenience, has on more than one occasion been already laid before the Government of India.

On these points there is now little difference of opinion, and the only point of any importance remaining for discussion is in reference to the best practical mode of introducing gold, without disturbing in any sudden or violent manner the currency at present in use, to which the people have so long been accustomed.

After much consideration of the subject the Committee of management of this Chamber are strongly of opinion that the simplest and safest course to follow would be to fall back upon Act XVII. of 1835, coin gold pieces of Rupees 10 and Rs. 5 respectively, and declare them legal tender.

The Committee would, however, deprecate coining 15 and 30 rupee gold pieces, as enacted by Act XVII. of 1835; the only argument in their favour, is the fact that at a former period these coins were familiar to the Natives of India, but this argument is now altogether obsolete, and ten and five rupee gold pieces would now be preferred by Europeans and Natives alike.

The Committee of the Chamber entirely agree with the opinion expressed by the Currency Commission of 1866, that the price of coined gold, as sanctioned by law in 1835, "seems to be the legitimate basis on which to found a gold legal tender coinage for India, consisting of pieces of Rupees 10 and Rs. 5 respectively; the 10 rupee piece bearing the weight of 120 grains, and the 5 rupee piece of 60 grains."

In paragraph 12 of the letter from the Government of India it is stated, that since the evidence submitted by the Commission was taken—"Gold has at times risen in value, and the tendency of gold to rise in value, remarked by Sir William Mansfield in 1864, has somewhat farther declared itself since that date. Consequently, there may be room for doubt whether, if gold pieces were not to be coined, the standard value as fixed in Act XVII. of 1835, or some other standard, should be adopted."

Gold and silver of course fluctuate in value, like all other commodities, though probably less so in the long run than any other; and their relative value has certainly not altered so as to make a change in their respective values as fixed by the above-mentioned Act, in any degree justifiable.

The question of the introduction of gold into the currency of India has been needlessly complicated by the desire expressed in so many quarters for the introduction of the English sovereign; and various plans, more or less ingenious, have been proposed for its introduction as the equivalent of 10 rupees.

As the sovereign, however, is admitted on all hands to be of greater intrinsic value than Rupees 10, it could not be made a current coin, as the equivalent of that sum, without raising the value of the rupee, a thing no wise statesman would think of proposing. The artificial methods proposed for effecting the same object by raising the seigniorage of the silver coinage are hardly less objectionable, and to declare the sovereign legal tender at its supposed value of Rs. 10-4, would be a serious inconvenience as matter of account, and probably a loss to the State.

The Committee respectfully submit; that the only safe way of dealing with the sovereign would be to continue the permission given in 1864 for its receipt at the public treasuries at the exchange of 10 rupees. By this course the State is in no danger of losing anything; and otherwise a notification to this effect would frequently be found to be a benefit to individuals, and a convenience to the public.

In paragraph 13 of the Government of India's letter it is stated that "at present the Government of India is hardly prepared to recommend the declaration of any gold coins as legal tender."

In reference to this remark the Committee are respectfully of opinion, that neither the plan they recommend, nor any other likely to be devised, will have any practical effect unless the coins proposed to be introduced are to be made legal tender; and unless Government are prepared to go this length it would really be better to leave things as they are, for no half measure will effect the object in view.

The only plausible objection is one mainly of a theoretical character—the supposed evils of a double standard. But the measure proposed is of so tentative a character, that there need be no fear on this score, and it seems hardly wise to defer giving effect to a scheme likely to prove of great public convenience and usefulness, from the apprehension of a supposed evil that in a practical form is not likely to arise.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

THE PAPER CURRENCY AND FACILITIES FOR THE ENCASHMENT OF NOTES.

No. 1024 of 1868.

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

Bombay Castle, 13th July 1868.

To THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,

Bombay,

SIR,—I am directed to forward to you the accompanying copy of a Resolution passed by the Government of India, in the Financial Department No. 537 dated 18th ultimo, and to request that you will move the Chamber of Commerce to favour this Government with their opinion on the schemes therein referred to, regarding the Paper Currency Circles.

I have, &c.,

F. R. S. WYLLIE,

Acting Under Secretary to Government.

No. 1023.

EXTRACT from the Proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Financial Department, dated 13th July 1868.

READ the following papers :—

Resolution of the Government of India, in the Financial Department, No. 537 dated 18th June 1868.

RESOLUTION.—His Excellency the Governor General in Council having taken into consideration those portions of the report dated

4th October 1866 by the Currency Commission which relate to Paper Currency, observes as follows:—

The enquiry by the Commission seemed to show a desire on the part of most of the authorities consulted for some modification of the existing Note Circles. This was apparent from the following passage:—

"*Epitome of Mr. Onslow's precis.*

"*Question No.* 5.—Do you consider the present arrangement of Circles, with a separate note for each Circle, well calculated to promote the reception of a Paper Currency by the Native population, and would you retain it?	*Answer No.* 5.—The unanimity and the decision of the answer in the negative to this question is very remarkable.
"*Question No.* 6.—If not, would you propose to increase the number of Circles (still retaining the plan of a separate note for each Circle)? And if so, to what extent? Or, keeping the present number of main Circles, would you establish Offices of Sub-Issue at the chief local Treasuries within each Circle where the Note should be convertible on demand as at the Head Office of Issue of the Circle?	*Answer No.* 6.—Some would retain Circles and establish Offices of Sub-Issue where Notes could be cashed. Others think that there should be one Note convertible at every Treasury. Others, that Notes of inferior denomination should be convertible at all Treasuries, but that Notes of a high one should be only cashed in their own Circle. Others, that there should be one Note for each Presidency cashable at all Treasuries within the limit of the latter. Abolish the Circles. Notes of every Circle should be payable on demand at the Presidency towns, and at specified Treasuries where trade exists.
"*Question No.* 7.—Or would you prefer the plan of having one universal Note for all India to be convertible only at the Presidency towns, and at certain specified Treasuries? Or is there any other plan you would recommend?	*Answer No.* 7.—Yes; convertible at Presidencies and Principal Treasuries. Others in favor of universal Notes convertible at all Treasuries. Great preponderance in favor of one universal Note, if readily convertible."

With reference to the opinion of the Commission "that the want of facilities for the encashment of Notes whether in the Circles proper, or when the boundary of a Circle has been passed, is clearly

established, and that this want is a great bar to the utility of the Currency Notes," the Commission observed that "it might be expedient—

"1*st*.—To separate the Office of Currency Commissioner of a Presidency from the Mastership of the Mint—vide evidence of Major Hyde, Currency Commissioner and Master of the Mint at Calcutta;

"2*nd*.—To enjoin the extension of facilities for the encashment of all Notes at all Treasuries up to a given small amount, say Rs. 200;

"3*rd*.—To permit Treasuries a larger discretion, where this may be done without much chance of loss;

"4*th*.—To establish Offices of Sub-Issue at such places as may be appproved of by Local Governments and Administrations for the purpose;

"5*th*.—To advise Accountants General not to exhibit too great a jealousy of remittances in Notes—vide the Memorandum of the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal on this subject."

Further, in respect to the project of an universal Note of which encashment could be demanded at any of the principal Treasuries in India, as advocated by so many authorities, the Commission stated that "it is obvious that before such a change could be recommended, as the introduction of an universal Note, a more detailed study of the subject is required than can be given to it by the Commission."

In respect to the five recommendations of the Commission as above quoted, the first does not press for determination; the second, third and fifth, have been carried into effect with a certain amount of advantage; no specific action has, however, yet been taken in regard to the fourth, of which the object is to establish additional Offices of Sub-Issue, with a view to facilitate and increase the convertibility of the Notes.

As regards the project of an universal Note, of which encashment could be demanded at all the principal Treasuries throughout India, this cannot at present be attempted for India generally. But the plan of having a Presidency Note (of which encashment could be demanded at all the principal Treasuries in each Presidency), though its practicability cannot as yet be affirmed, seems worthy of consideration.

In reference to the feasibility of a Presidency Note, and to the fourth recommendation of the Commission for establishing additional Offices of Sub-Issue, the following alternative schemes have been now under the consideration of the Government of India.

The first scheme is—

I.—To have the Presidency Notes, that is, the Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay Notes, convertible, by law, on demand, at all the principal Treasuries in each of the three Presidencies respectively; in other words, to have the Calcutta Note convertible as above at all the principal Treasuries in the Bengal Presidency; the Madras Note convertible at all the principal Treasuries in the Madras Presidency; the Bombay Note the same in the Bombay Presidency.

II.—To keep the existing Note Circles, and the arrangements therewith connected as they are.

III.—To have an auxiliary Note circulation for each Zillah or District; the said circulation to be of limited amount fixed for each district, the Notes to be issued through the Collector, and to be convertible, by law, on demand, at every Sudder or District Treasury within the said Zillah or district.

The second scheme is—

I.—To have the Presidency Note as in the first scheme.

II.—To have, in substitution for the existing Circles, small Circles consisting sometimes of groups of two or more Districts or Zillahs commercially or topographically connected with each other, and sometimes of single districts; to issue the Notes through a special Currency Officer in each Circle, and to declare the Notes convertible on demand at all of the Sudder or District Government Treasuries within each Circle.

The term "principal Treasuries," as described in the preceding paragraphs, should be taken to mean the Sudder Treasuries of the Districts or Zillahs through which there may run a Railway communicating with the Presidency town.

In both schemes the scope and object of the Presidency Notes are the same. For the general convenience of the public of all classes, the Notes would be certainly convertible over large tracts of country. In some cases, and to some extent, the facility for encashment thus afforded would be used for remittance. This would entail some cost and trouble to the State. It could hardly entail risk; because the Railway and Telegraph would, in extreme cases, furnish the means of ensuring the fulfilment of any engagements which could reasonably be expected to accrue under the circumstances. But the question is rather whether the cost and trouble would not be more than counterbalanced by the expansion of the Note circulation which conduces to the benefit, not only of the people, but of the Government itself.

The object of the auxiliary District or Zillah Note circulation would mainly be to educate the middle classes generally to the use of paper-money. The fear is that as yet the Note circulation,

however large in the aggregate, does not extend much beyond the travelling and trading classes, and has not reached the mass of the people. The idea is that the people would more readily use a Zillah Note issued, as they would consider, on the security of the Collector and his Treasury, with which they are so familiar, and convertible at the several District Treasuries to which they so constantly resort. But manifestly such a Zillah circulation, if attempted, must be limited in amount for each district, must be quite separate from and additional to the Presidency and the Circle Notes; and would be purely local, and not available beyond the limits of the District. The Collector would be bound to keep specie for all, or nearly all, the amount of his issue of Notes. But if the attempt were made only in large districts, or districts on the line of Railway, and if the amount of issue were carefully limited for each district, the above condition might be fulfilled without any appreciable addition to the cash balances.

In the second scheme the substitution of a Note circulation in small groups of districts for the present Circle circulation has much the same objects as those mentioned in the last preceding paragraph. The Notes would not be issued through the Collector, but through a special Currency Officer. But while the convertibility would be the same the area would be larger, and the convenience to the people would be still greater than in the first scheme. But then the consideration would arise as to whether it would be safe to leave the issue of Notes for each of these smaller Circles, or groups of Districts without limit as in the present Circles, or whether it would be necessary to limit the issue for each group in the manner proposed in the first scheme for each Zillah, and whether it would be necessary to fix the proportion of cash to issues to be maintained in each group.

Of the arguments in favor of the second scheme, there may be specially mentioned—

1st.—That it would be more convenient to have but two classes of Notes, viz., the Presidency Note, and the Note for the smaller circles or groups of districts; whereas by the first scheme there would be three classes.

2nd.—That if these Circles be kept within fairly moderate limits the difference of risk as respects means of convertibility between the Circle Note and the Zillah Note would be hardly appreciable.

3rd.—That the Zillah Note would be but of little use in meeting the encashment of Presidency Notes if presented in large quantities at one time.

4th.—That the Circle Note as above described would conduce to facilitate such encashment, as on the Presidency Note being presented in a Circle the Circle Note would be readily taken in place of it, if the money remitted was meant for expenditure, or reserved in the Circle concerned.

5th.—That being watched over by experienced Currency Officers the particular service would be more properly cared for, whereas Collectors and Magistrates are already over-burdened with their multifarious work.

Memorandum by E. H. Lushington, Secretary to the Government of India.

Ordered that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to all Local Governments and administrations, to the Head Commissioner of Paper Currency, Calcutta, and to the Commissioners of Currency of Madras and Bombay, for early consideration and report on the two schemes above described.

RESOLUTION.—Copies to be forwarded to the Commissioner in Sind, the two Revenue Commissioners, all Collectors, the Chamber of Commerce, the Accountant General, and the Commissioner on Paper Currency, for early submission of opinion.

Ordered that copies of the above be forwarded to—

The COMMISSIONER IN SIND,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER N. D.,
The REVENUE COMMISSIONER S. D.,
All COLLECTORS,
The CHAMBER of COMMERCE (by letter),
The ACCOUNTANT GENERAL,
The COMMISSIONER of PAPER CURRENCY.

M. J. SHAW STEWART,
Acting Chief Secretary to Government.

No. 142 OF 1868.

BOMBAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
28th September 1868.

TO THE ACTING CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
Bombay.

SIR,—Adverting to the extract from the proceedings of the Government of Bombay in the Financial Department, dated 13th July last, Submitting for the opinion of the Chamber certain proposals made in a Resolution of the Government of India, for

giving increased facilities for the encashment of notes, and thereby educating the great body of the people of India to the use of paper-money.

I am directed by the Committee of Management in reply to state that of the two alternative schemes mentioned as being under the consideration of the Government of India, this Chamber considers the second as that which would on the whole best assist in the attainment of the important object in view.

The Committee are so little acquainted with the details of the system in operation in connection with the introduction of the paper currency, that they are diffident in expressing an opinion on points into which questions of detail largely enter; but it appears to them that even the second of the alternative schemes referred to, is put forward in a more complicated form than in their judgment seems necessary.

The more simple the scheme proposed, and the more extended the facilities offered, for encashing Notes the greater are the chances of paper money becoming familiar and acceptable to the people.

A Universal Note for all India, that would be encashed at any Treasury where it was presented, would doubtless secure a success beyond the most sanguine expectations in a very short time. But such a Note in present circumstances is altogether impracticable.

The next best plan in the respectful opinion of the Committee, would be to have a Presidency Note, as is proposed, and that facilities should be given for making this Note convertible throughout every part of the Presidency for which the Note is issued. This might be effected by the establishment of Offices of sub-issue in every Zillah or Collectorate, and matters so arranged in accordance with the experience of the servants of Government in the Mofussil, that there need be little difficulty in effecting the encashment of Notes in even the most remote corners of any Presidency.

The very first condition of success in introducing paper money into the currency of a Country, which has hitherto been only accustomed to a currency that in itself has an intrinsic value, and amongst a people still full of suspicion from the memory of the oppression of Governments of former times—is complete facility for the convertibility of the Note and every difficulty in this respect, is a barrier to be removed in order to secure success by thus commanding the confidence of the people.

The proposal for a Zillah Note is objectionable in the opinion of the Committee, from the fact that it would only have a comparatively narrow circulation, and would thus tend to increase the suspicions of the ignorant, instead of assisting in removing them. The Presidency Note, would be entirely free from this objection, because

the reason for the boundary of its convertibility would be more readily understood. The Committee, however, would in conclusion, beg respectfully to reiterate the opinion expressed by the Chamber two years ago, that the introduction of a five rupee note "would largely assist in extending a paper currency in the districts by permitting the use of notes in the payment of wages and in the settlement of the small transactions of the great body of the people."

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR, Secretary.

ZANZIBAR CURRENCY.

No. 396 OF 1869.

From C. GONNE, Esq.,
Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To THE SECRETARY TO THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.
Bombay.

Political Department.

Dated 4th February 1869.

SIR,—Referring to your letter, dated the 1st February 1868, relative to the Zanzibar Currency, I am directed to forward, for the information of the Chamber of Commerce, the accompanying copy of a letter and of its enclosures dated the 12th November last, No. $\frac{63}{217}$, from the Political Agent and Consul at Zanzibar.

I have &c.,
C. GONNE,
Secretary to Government.

No. $\frac{63}{217}$ OF 1868.

From JOHN KIRK, Esquire,
Acting British Political Agent and Consul,
Zanzibar.

To C. GONNE, Esquire,
Secretary to Government,
Bombay.

Political Department.

Dated Zanzibar, 12th November 1868.

SIR,—I have the honor to communicate for the information of His Excellency the Governor in Council that the long debated

question of the Zanzibar Currency has at last been brought to a close.

The difficulties experienced in the settlement of this affair arose entirely from the conflicting interests of the various nationalities here represented.

The Americans were naturally unwilling to lose the advantage they had gained, while French Merchants, now the chief importers of coin, labouring under a serious disadvantage, were anxious for an immediate change.

As far as English interests were concerned, I believe we occupied a neutral position. What we lost by the undervaluation of the sovereign was far more than balanced by the premium on the rupee.

On the 1st November the agreement entered into by the Sultan with the American Consul and tacitly concurred in by the other Consulates, had expired, and as the Sultan showed little disposition to move in the matter as he had promised, I addressed a letter to His Highness, requesting to be informed which coin had been decided on as the future dollar of the Zanzibar State, whether it would be the German Crown as before, or the American dollar now artificially its equivalent. I pointed out at the same time, through his Secretary, that on learning the unit of account selected by His Highness, I should be in a position to inform him as to the relative intrinsic value of the English and Indian coin.

His Highness at once intimated, through his Secretary, that the German Silver dollar of Maria Theresa, known here as the "Shami" dollar, had always been, and would continue to be the money of Zanzibar, but he said that he found himself in a difficult position, as the Americans urged strongly for two years' delay previous to any change, and were prepared to assert that by equalizing their coin to the German dollar, he had taken the American gold as the money of account in terms of which they had kept their accounts.

Such an act as this would amount to virtual repudiation of their debts, which are chiefly due to British Indians to the amount of two per cent. for which there could be no remedy short of a lengthened law suit in America

I therefore consented to a compromise, allowing one year to elapse before the commencement of the new rule, by which the black dollar continues to be the standard of account throughout the kingdom of Zanzibar, while all other money, of whatever nation is left to take its market value, as is at present the case with the copper currency.

To this agreement the American and German Councils have placed their names, and I find the measure gives great satisfaction to the British Indian population, who by the sudden depreciation of the American coin would have been serious losers.

But little confusion is likely to be experienced by the fluctuation of coin. At the present day no one would think of making large payments in depreciated coin which command almost their true value in the market.

In order to give confidence and to save trouble in the adjudication of claims in H. M'.s Consular Court, after the expiry of one year, I have intimated that all coins will be estimated in H. M.'s Consular Court after that date at their intrinsic value, as determined by the Bombay Mint.

What the ultimate result of this measure of the Sultan may be it is difficult to predict. The Americans have ceased to import coin, finding cotton goods more profitable; while the French even now under existing disadvantages have become the chief importers of coin.

I must state that in my opinion His Highness has done wisely in retaining the old German Crown as his unit of account.

I have the honour to forward copies of His Highness' Proclamation, and the Notification published at the British Consulate thereon; the purport of which I venture to notice should be made known to the Mercantile Community of Bombay.

I have, &c.,

(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

Translation.

Syud Majid bin Saeed to all who may see this. Know that from this date to the end of one lunar year the American coin and the coins of other countries shall pass in our kingdom at their present established values, and that after the end of one year from this date all money shall circulate at its market value without price fixed by us. Only the silver dollar known as "Shami" (or German Crown) shall be our standard dollar and unit of account throughout our Kingdom.

Written by order of the Sultan by his servant Saliman bin Ali.

* November ? * 25th Rejeb 1285. / 11th March 1868

True Translation,

(Signed) JOHN KIRK.

12th November 1868.

Acting Political Agent and Consul.

(*Copy.*)

NOTICE.

Whereas His Highness Syud Majid has issued a Proclamation that from the $\frac{\text{25th Rejeb 1285}}{\text{11th November 1868}}$ until the 25th Rejeb 1286, the various coins now in use shall maintain their former values, but that the 25th day of Rejeb 1286, or twelve lunar months from the present date, the German Crown known as "Shami," alone shall be the dollar of Zanzibar and standard of account.

Notice is hereby given that in the settlement of claims before the British Consular Court within the next twelve months, as expressed in His Highness' Proclamation, each coin will be reckoned as formerly, but that after the 25th day of Rejeb 1286 all money will be estimated at its intrinsic value as determined by the Bombay Mint, the German Crown being the unit.

(Signed) JOHN KIRK,
Acting British Political Agent and Consul.

British Consulate,
Zanzibar, 12th November 1868. } L.S.

True Copy.

(Signed) JOHN KIRK,
Acting Political Agent, and Consul.

Zanzibar, 12th November 1868.

True Copies,
A. COWAN,
Assistant Secretary.

THE INTRODUCTION OF PERSIAN OPIUM INTO CHINA.

No. 822 OF 1869.

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, BOMBAY.

Office of Commissioner of Customs, 10th March 1869.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward the annexed copy of a Government Memo. No. 963, dated 9th instant and accompaniment, regarding the exportation of Persian Opium to China, together with

the samples* of Opium therein referred to, and to request that you will favour me with the opinion of the Chamber on the subject generally; and also as to the quality of the Opium, samples, which should be returned with your reply.

I have, &c.,
L. REID,
Commissioner of Customs.

*One box only.

No. 15 OF 1869.

From Lieutenant-Colonel LEWIS PELLY, C.S.I., H. B. M's.
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,

To THE SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

Bombay, dated 5th February 1869.

SIR,—I think it might possibly be interesting to Government to receive the enclosed summary of the export of Opium from Persia for the year now concluded. It was prepared by a merchant of old standing in Bushire, and is, I believe, approximately correct.

2nd. The "West India," a steamer of 1800 tons register, will leave Bushire for Bundar Abbas, Singapore, and China a few days hence. She will take some 460 Chests from Bushire and about 100 from Bundar Abbas. This is, I understand, the first instance of the drug being exported direct by Steamers for China from the Persian Gulf.

3. It is asserted that if Opium were subjected at Bombay to no heavier duty than one of transhipment at 50 Rupees per chest the trade should follow that route. It may however be questioned whether if once the trade be so largely developed as to pay chartering of a steamer direct for China, Merchants would adopt an indirect route and incur costs of transhipment and of transhipment duty.

4. The steamer "West India" takes also, I hear, some thousand bags of grain and other bulky goods.

5. Enclosed are too samples of Persian Opium, one from Yezd the other from Ispahan. Enclosed also is a memo. on the Opium cultivation obligingly prepared for me by a merchant.

6. Opium shipped from Persia by a British subject would pay the five per cent. *ad valorem* duty according to Treaty.

7. Opium shipped by a Persian subject would pay (38) thirty-eight krans per chest.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) LEWIS PELL, Lieutenant-Colonel,
H. B. M.'s Political Resident, Persian Gulf.

British Residency,
Bushire, 5th February 1869.

SUMMARY.

Persian Opium of the crop of 1868 has been exported by the following vessels:—

Per Sweedish Ship "Cecelia'	157	chests.
,, Dutch Ship ,, Scheveningon.....	214	,,
,, Do ,, Amazon	68	,,
,, Do ,, Wittelena } ,, Do ,, Fredericka }	61	,,
These were taken to Java for transmission to China, via Singapoor.		
,, English Ship "Myram Dyram"	275	,,
The "Myram Dyram" goes direct to Singapoor, and the Opium shipped by her will be forwarded thence to China.		
,, Steamer The "West India"	600	,,
This vessel is bound direct to China, and will leave Bushire in four or five days.		
Now lying in Bunder Abbass	70	,,
This quantity will be sent to Singapoor per "Myram Dyram"	1445	
Supposed to be on their way down from the Interior, about.....	100	,,
	1545	
Of the above, 645 chests may be estimated as the produce of Ispahan.....	645	
And, as the produce of Yezd,.....	900	
	1545	

Bushire, 28th January 1869.

"True copy."

(Signed) S. A. SMITH, Captain,
2nd Assistant Political Resident Persian Gulf.

MEMO.

The parcel marked "Yezd Opium" is a specimen of the Opium produced in Yezd and that marked "Ispahan Opium" is a specimen of the drug produced in "Ispahan." The present annual yield of Yezd may be estimated at 700 chests and that of Ispahan at 500 chests. The Yezd Opium is considered superior to Ispahan, the dryness of the climate thereof and the soil being better adopted to the growth of that product, but the crops requiring to be irrigated at an advanced stage of its development when the rains begin to fall away and there being an insufficiency of the means, both natural and artificial, of meeting that requirement, notwithstanding the existence of a large

cultivable area lying idle. The yield of Yezd will not be capable of considerable extension. Ispahan differs from Yezd in this latter respect, in that it abounds in streams and rivers which might be thought to make the country susceptible of a greater extension of the cultivation of opium, but the application of a considerable part of those resources to the cultivation of cotton and cereals tend in no small degree to stint its yield of Opium. A chest contains about 140 lbs. of Opium, and costs, with all expenses to Bushire, from 2,250 to 2,350 Krans. It cannot be said that the Opium in Yezd always sells better owing to its superiority than the Opium in Ispahan, as the price depends entirely upon the demand that there may be at the time at each of those places. Adulteration to a great extent is now practised both in Yezd and Ispahan in the preparation of Opium, which has been known to sell in China from 150 to 800 dollars per chest, according to quality; moreover, several chests have been returned from China as utterly unfit for its market.

Bushire, 28th January 1869.

"True copy."

(Signed) S. A. SMITH, Captain.
2nd Assistant Political Resident Persian Gulf.

No. 963 OF 1869.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT.

Bombay Castle, 9th March 1869.

Forwarded to the Commissioner of Customs, Salt and Opium with a request that he will obtain the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce as to the quality of the Opium samples.

(Signed) F. R. S. WYLLIE.
Acting Under Secretary to Government.

True copies.

NILKUNT ANUNT JOSEE,
Assistant Commissioner of Customs.

BOMBAY, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
17th March 1869.

No. 71 OF 1869.

MESSRS. FORBES & Co., Bombay.

DEAR SIRS,—I am directed by the Committee of Management of the Chamber to request you will be kind enough to favour them with a report on the quality of the accompanying samples of Persian

Opium. The Committee require this report for Government, by whom the samples have been submitted in reference to some points of a general character regarding the Persian Opium trade on which the opinion of the Chamber has been requested.

Be so good as to return the samples with the report as we are requested to send them back to Government.

I remain, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

Bombay, 22nd March 1869.

JAMES TAYLOR, Esq.,
Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—We have to inform you that on receipt of your letter of 19th instant, we immediately proceeded to have the two samples of Opium boiled and tested and have now to hand report thereon.

We do not find any difference in the quality of the two samples both being good in Touch, Smoke and Filter, and in all other respects we should not be far wrong in describing them as superior to Malwa Drug, and for the guidance of professional testers, we annex a Memo. Shewing the result after boiling.

We need not say that in arriving at the above result the samples have been used up; we however return the empty box which contained them.

We remain &c.,

(Signed) FORBES & Co.

MEMO. REFERRED TO.

Place of Production.	How Filters.	Appearance.	Touch	How in Smoking.
Yazd.	Quickly.	Good.	70 Fully.	Good.
Ispahan.	Quickly.	Good.	70 Fully.	Good.

(Signed) F. & Co.

Bombay, 22nd March 1869.

No. 80 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
31*st March* 1869.

L. Reid, Esq,
Commissioner of Customs, Bombay,

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 822 of 1869, dated 10th instant, submitting two samples of Persian Opium, on which Government request the opinion of the Chamber in reference to the quality of the same.

In reply, I have now the honour by direction of the Committee of Management to forward herewith, for the information of Government, a letter from Messrs. Forbes & Co., (member of the Chamber) reporting fully on the two samples submitted for inspection and report. In your letter under reply you requested that the samples might be returned, but you will observe from the report, the samples were necessarily used up in the process of testing. The box which contained the samples is herewith returned.

As the report, which I have now the honour to transmit, shows the samples are fully equal if not superior to the Malwa Opium. The Committee are respectfully of opinion that if Government intends to permit the import of Persian Opium into Bombay in bond for further despatch to China, it should be taxed at such a rate as would preclude the chance of its being sold at a lower rate than Malwa Opium in the China market.

By permitting the Opium to be warehoused at Bombay an impetus will be given to a trade which in the course of a few years may in a rather formidable manner compete with the Indian Opium trade and seriously affect the revenue to the State derived therefrom.

I have, &c.,
JAMES TAYLOR,
Secretary.

No. 117 of 1869.

Bombay Chamber of Commerce,
13*th May* 1869.

L. Reid, Esq.,
Commissioner of Customs, Bombay.

Sir,—Adverting to former correspondence on the subject of Persian Opium, I have the honour to forward herewith, for the

information of Government, a letter from Messrs. Forbes and Co., to the Chamber, giving interesting information regarding the supply of Persian Opium in China and the prices at which it has been sold.

I have, &c.,

JAMES TAYLOR,

Secretary.

Bombay, 11th May 1869.

JAMES TAYLOR, ESQ.,

Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Bombay.

DEAR SIR,—In continuation of our letters of 18th and 22nd March last, we now have the pleasure to annex extracts of letters from two of our correspondents in China, relative to Persian Opium, which information may be interesting to the Members of the Chamber, also to the Government.

We remain, &c.,

FORBES & Co.

EXTRACTS REFERRED TO.

As far as we can ascertain, the only direct shipment of importance of Persian Opium has been by the steamer "West Indian," on the 2nd of the present month, when 650 chests were received but for some months past both the P. and O. Company and the Messageries Imperiales steamers have brought small supplies, and herein we hand you particulars of each import. We believe in most instances the Opium is shipped in Singapore, to which place it probably finds its way from Persia. Messrs. D. Sassoon, Sons, and Co., have hitherto been the chief consignees; but within the past month a firm entitled Hajee Meerza Mahomed Ally and Co., has commenced business and will, we understand, confine themselves almost exclusively to the importation of Persian Opium; indeed, they have received the greater portion of that above referred to, per "West Indian," the quality of which is generally well reported of and is valued at about dollars 60 per pcl. under Malwa, which up to dollars 70 per pcl. has been the general quotation, although in some few instances the quality has been very bad, and sold as low as dollars 250 per pcl. Almost all of the drug imported has been re-shipped or sold here for re-shipment to the Coast Ports of Amoy and Foochow from whence it has in some cases been sent on to Formosa.

Importations of Persian Opium since 9th July 1868 have been:

1868				
	Stock on 9th July 1868		224	Chests.
9th July	....	"Arratoon Apcar"	50	,,
14th ,,	....	"Columbian"	51	,,
30th ,,	....	"Malacca"	34	,,
			359	,,
1869				
17th Jan.	....	"Orissa"	66	,,
28th ,,	....	"Cambodge"	89	,,
30th ,,	....	"China"	135	,,
12th Feb.	....	"Lightning"	5	,,
13th ,,	....	"Madras"	55	,,
26th ,,	....	"Ellora"	22	,,
9th Mar.	....	"A. Apcar"	7	,,
12th ,,	....	"Emew"	18	,,
2nd Apr.	....	"West Indian"	630	,,
8th ,,	....	"Orissa"	130	,,
			1,516	Chests.

Present quotation for best quality drug is dollars 600 and 605 per pcl. with an estimated stock of 650 chests.

In reply to your favour of 18th ultimo, regarding Persian Opium we find upon enquiry that large shipments of this drug have been lately received here, the profit on which we understand has been considerable, the quality has varied, but generally it has been good, and has sold readily at dollars 600 and 610 per pcl. the first named price being the quotation to-day for first class drug.

(True Extracts.)

FORBES & Co.

APPENDIX Y.

FUNDS OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR 1868-69.

Disbursements.	Rs.	a.	p.	Receipts.	Rs.	a.	p.
Rent	2,100	0	0	Balance from last year	4,349	15	4
Printing	2,213	0	0	Subscriptions	14,491	0	0
Advertisements	86	14	0	Sales of Daily and Weekly Trade Returns and Manifests	8,140	0	0
Newspapers and Books	179	4	0	Amount realised by members for Daily and Weekly Trade Returns	3,612	0	0
Postage Stamps	137	5	8	Sale of Cotton Gins, Reports, and Tonnage Scales, &c.	103	8	0
Office Salaries and Petty charges, &c.	7,507	10	6	Interest allowed by Treasurers	155	7	9
Stationery	126	6	0				
Daily and Weekly Trade Returns and Manifests;—							
Salaries Rs. 5,292 0 0							
Printing ,, 7,904 0 0							
	13,196	4	0				
Commission charged by Treasurers	263	7	5				
Balance	5,041	11	6				
Total....Rupees	30,851	15	1	Total....Rupees	30,851	15	1

Balance in hands of Treasurers 30th September 1869....Rs. 5,041 11 6

LIST OF PAMPHLETS AND PAPERS RECEIVED BY THE CHAMBER DURING THE YEAR 1868-69.

No.	Titles.	Received from.
1	Memorial from the Bombay Association to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India for the admission of the Natives of India into Covenanted Civil and Medical Services of India.	Bombay Association.
2	Report of the Indian Commercial Association for 1868.	Indian Commercial Association.
3	Report of Agri-Horticultural Society of the Punjaub for 1868.	Agri-Horticultural Society.
4	The Lays of Cotton Broking,.....	Author.
5	Report of the Public Meeting on the Education and Board cess question.	British India Association
6	Photograph of the Bombay Harbour..	Harbour and Pilotage Bd.
7	Spoilt Child of the Indian Family ..	W. Martin Wood, Esq.
8	Second Report of the Bombay Diocesan Board of Education.	Diocesan Board of Educatoin.
9	Report of the Port Canning Land Investment, Reclamation, and Dock Company.	F. Schiller, Esq.
10	Memorial of the Shanghai Chamber on the revision of the Treaty of Tientom.	Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.
11	Economic Products of the Punjaub ..	Punjaub Government.
12	Report of the Trade and Customs of British Burma for 1867-68.	Colonel Albert Tytche, Chief Commissioner.
13	Report of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway, for 1868-69.	B. B. and C. I. Railway.
14	Report on Suez Canal Company	Suez Canal Company.
15	Municipal Affairs in 1868	W. Martin Wood, Esq.
16	Tide Tables of Bombay and Kurrachee Harbour for 1869.	Bombay Government.
17	Memorial of the Trade Association of Bombay, on European Vagrants in Bombay.	Trade Association.
18	Broach and its Exhibition in 1868 ..	W. Martin Wood, Esq.
19	Annual Statement of the Trade and Navigation of the Bombay Presidency for 1867-68.	Commissioner of Customs.

List of Pamphlets—continued.

No.	Titles.	Received from.
20	Report of the operation of the Cotton Department for 1867.	H. Rivett-Carnac, Esq.
21	Report on the Cultivator's Manual ..	Bombay Government.
22	Report on the Broach exhibition for 1868-69.	T. C. Hope, Esq.
23	The Cultivator's Manual by Lieutenant D. Jose Maria Dasa.	Bombay Government.
24	Report of the Silk Supply Association.	Silk Supply Association.
25	Annual Report of the operation of the Post Office of India for 1867-68.	Director General Post Office.
26	Annual Report of the Administration of the Customs Revenue of the Bombay Presidency for 1867-68.	Bombay Government.
27	Revenue Report of British Burma for the year 1867-68.	British Burma.
28	Annual Report of the Cotton Department for Central Provinces for the year 1867-68.	H. Rivett-Carnac, Esq.
29	Administration Report of the Province of British Burma for 1867-68.	Chief Commissioner, British Burma.
30	Administration Report of the Public Works Department Bombay Presidency for 1868-69.	Bombay Government.
31	Administration Report of the Revenue in the Province of Oudh in two parts for 1868.	Ditto.
32	Administration Report of the result of the Salt Department 1867-68.	Bengal Government.
33	Finance and Revenue accounts of the Government of India for 1867-68.	Government of India.
34	Budget Estimate Revenue expenditure and Cash Balance of the Government of India for 1869-70.	Ditto.
35	Statistics of New Zealand for the year 1867.	New Zealand Government.
36	Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of British India.	Government of India.
37	Journal of the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of India for 1868-69.	Agricultural and Horticultural Society.

List of Pamphlets—continued.

No.	Titles.	Received from.
38	Transactions of the Bombay Geographical Society for the year 1867.	Bombay Geographical Society.
39	Revenue Report and Statements of the Punjaub and its dependencies for 1867-68.	Bombay Government.
40	Minutes of Evidence taken in England and India into the Failure of the Bank of Bombay (in vol. 3.)	Bombay Government.
41	Proceedings of the Council of the Governor of Bombay for 1868 (vol. 7.)	Ditto.
42	Bombay Seamen's Friend Association for the year 1867-68.	Seamen's Friend Association.
43	Report of a visit to the Central Silk Districts of Japan.	Chamber of Commerce Yokohama.
44	Census of New Zealand for 1867.	New Zealand Government.
45	Annual Report of the British Indian Association 1868-69.	British Indian Association.
46	Annual Reports of the Cotton Frauds Department for 1867-68 & 1868-69.	Bombay Government.
47	Annual Report of the Calcutta Chamber of Commerce for the years 1868-69 (2 vols.)	Calcutta Chamber.
48	Annual Report of the Madras Chamber of Commerce for the year 1867-68.	Madras Chamber.
49	Annual Report of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce for 1868.	Manchester Chamber.
50	Annual Report of the Liverpool Chamber for 1867.	Liverpool Chamber.
51	Annual Report of the Kurrachee Chamber of Commerce for 1867-68.	Kurrachee Chamber.
52	Annual Report of the South Australian Chamber of Commerce for 1868.	South Australian Chamber.
53	Annual Report of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce for the year 1868.	Shanghai Chamber of Commerce.
54	Annual Report of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce for the year 1868.	Hongkong Chamber.
55	Annual Report of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce 1868.	Glasgow Chamber.
56	Annual Report of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce for the year 1869.	Melbourne Chamber.

List of Pamphlets—continued.

No.	Titles.	Received from.
57	Annual Report of the Natal Chamber of Commerce for 1867-68.	Natal Chamber.
58	Annual Report of the Cotton Supply Association for 1868.	Cotton Supply Association.
59	Annual Report of the Dundee Chamber of Commerce for 1868.	Dundee Chamber.
60	Half-yearly Report of the Colombo Chamber of Commerce for 1868.	Colombo Chamber.
61	Half-yearly Report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, July 1869.	Yokohama Chamber

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